

# FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL	
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * <b>RUBLE CHRIS C</b>			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>FORWARD AIR CORP [FWRD]</b>			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director _____ 10% Owner _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below) _____ <b>Sr. Vice President, Operations</b>		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <b>02/04/2004</b>					
430 AIRPORT ROAD								
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
GREENEVILLE, TN 37745								
(City) (State) (Zip)			<b>Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned</b>					

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock							726 (1)		D	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 28.23	02/04/2004		A	20,000		(2)	02/04/2014	Common Stock	20,000	\$ 0	20,000	D	
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 7.42							02/05/2002	02/05/2009	Common Stock	5,450	5,450	D	
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 26.69							(3)	02/03/2010	Common Stock	5,000	5,000	D	
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 34.75							(4)	02/12/2011	Common Stock	5,000	5,000	D	
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 23.8							(5)	10/16/2011	Common Stock	10,000	10,000	D	

### Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
RUBLE CHRIS C 430 AIRPORT ROAD GREENEVILLE, TN 37745			Sr. Vice President, Operations	

### Signatures

By: Lera Doherty, Attorney in Fact

02/06/2004

Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1) Includes 202 shares acquired under the Issuer's employee stock purchase plan in December 2003.

(2) This is a vesting schedule, 25% over 4 years, commencing 2/4/2005.

(3) Became fully exercisable 2/3/2004.

(4) This is a vesting schedule, 25% over 4 years commencing 2/12/02.

(5) This is a vesting schedule, 25% over 4 years commencing 10/16/02.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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