

ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC.

Form 4

February 11, 2016

**FORM 4****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

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,  
Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section  
30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
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2005  
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response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
SPRAGUE JOSEPH A

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC.  
[ALK]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
19300 INTERNATIONAL BLVD  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
02/09/2016

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_\_\_\_ Officer (give title \_\_\_\_ Other (specify  
below) below)  
SR VP/COMM & EXT RELATIONS

SEATTLE, WA 98188

4. If Amendment, Date Original  
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
\_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting  
Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

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)
COMMON STOCK 401(K) <sup>(1)</sup>				(A) or (D)	Price		
			Code	V	Amount		
COMMON STOCK 401(K) <sup>(1)</sup>						7,049	I ESOP TRUST
RESTRICTED STOCK UNIT	02/09/2016		A <sup>(3)</sup>	1,750	A \$ 0	9,300	D
COMMON STOCK	02/09/2016		A <sup>(4)</sup>	4,020	A \$ 0	19,664	D
COMMON STOCK	02/09/2016		F <sup>(5)</sup>	1,100	D \$ 65.63	18,564	D

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

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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
EMPLOYEE STOCK OPTION (RT TO BUY)	\$ 65.63	02/09/2016		A	4,190	02/09/2017 <sup>(2)</sup> 02/09/2026	COMMON STOCK

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SPRAGUE JOSEPH A 19300 INTERNATIONAL BLVD SEATTLE, WA 98188			SR VP/COMM & EXT RELATIONS	

## Signatures

/S/ JEANNE E GAMMON, ATTORNEY-IN-FACT FOR JOSEPH A. SPRAGUE 02/11/2016

\_\_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) COMMON SHARES HELD IN THE ALASKA AIR GROUP INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP 401(K) PLAN TRUST, AS OF 12/31/15.
- (2) OPTIONS VEST IN 25% INCREMENTS OVER FOUR YEARS (02/09/2017, 02/09/2018, 02/09/2019 AND 02/09/2020).
- (3) STOCK UNITS AWARDED UNDER THE ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC. 2008 PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PLAN ON 02/09/2016 WILL CLIFF VEST ON 02/09/2019. UNITS ARE SUBJECT TO FORFEITURE.
- (4)

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ALK COMMON SHARES ISSUED UPON ATTAINING PERFORMANCE GOALS SET FOR A THREE-YEAR PERIOD ENDING 12/31/2015, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF PERFORMANCE STOCK UNITS GRANTED ON 02/11/2013 UNDER THE ISSUER'S 2008 PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PLAN; PER APPROVAL BY THE BOARD'S COMPENSATION AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ON 02/09/2016.

- (5) COMMON SHARES FORFEITED TO COVER PAYROLL TAXES UPON VESTING OF PERFORMANCE STOCK UNITS ON 02/09/2016. AMOUNT PROVIDED IN COLUMN 4 REPRESENTS THE FMV OF THE SHARES ON THE DATE OF FORFEITURE.

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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