TARTAGLIA THOMAS G
Form 5
February 14, 2012

FORM 5

OMB APPROVAL

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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).
Form 3 Holdings Reported
Form 4 Transactions Reported

ANNUAL 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person [*]
TARTAGLIA THOMAS G

(Last) (First) (Middle)

777 NORTH BROADWAY

(Street)

LOS ANGELES,Â CAÂ 90012

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP [CATY]

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)
12/31/2011

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

__X__ Director _____ 10% Owner
_____ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

_X_ Form Filed by One Reporting Person
___ Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	01/25/2011	Â	J[(1)]	800	D	$ 0	0	D	Â
Common Stock	01/25/2011	Â	J[(1)]	800	A	$ 0	70,516 [(2)]	I	T. Tartaglia Trust
Common Stock	12/31/2011	Â	J[(3)]	30.76	A	$ 13.71	9,973.91 [(2)]	I	By ESOP

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)	
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option	$ 16.275	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/21/2005 (4)	01/21/2012	Common Stock	1,200
Stock Option	$ 19.925	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	01/16/2005 (4)	01/16/2013	Common Stock	3,040
Stock Option	$ 24.8	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	11/20/2004 (4)	11/20/2013	Common Stock	11,000
Stock Option	$ 37	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/17/2006 (4)	02/17/2015	Common Stock	3,500
Stock Option	$ 36.24	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	01/25/2007 (4)	01/25/2016	Common Stock	3,500
Stock Option	$ 23.37	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/21/2009 (5)	02/21/2018	Common Stock	3,500

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
TARTAGLIA THOMAS G 777 NORTH BROADWAY LOS ANGELES,Â CAÂ 90012	Â X	Â	Â	Â

Signatures

Monica Chen, Assistant Secretary of Cathay General Bancorp	02/14/2012
**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)	Transferred from individual direct ownership to the Trust account as indirect ownership.
(2)	1,254 shares were distributed from ESOP to the reporting person on 9/21/11, and subsequently transferred to his Trust account on 10/5/11.
(3)	ESOP Earning Allocation.
(4)	The option is fully exercisable.
(5)	The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/21/09.

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