

NUVASIVE INC  
Form 4  
May 22, 2008

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**HOWE LESLEY H**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

4545 TOWNE CENTRE COURT

(Street)

SAN DIEGO, CA 92121

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**NUVASIVE INC [NUVA]**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
**05/22/2008**

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |     |       |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|-----|-------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Code  | V  | Amount                            | (D) | Price |

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 | 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 | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Derivative Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|---|
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|---|

| Derivative Security         |          |            |  | (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | Code | V | (A)                  | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares |
|-----------------------------|----------|------------|--|---|------|---|----------------------|-----|------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 39.45 | 05/22/2008 |  |   | A    |   | 6,000 <sup>(1)</sup> |     | <sup>(2)</sup>   | 05/21/2018      | Common Stock | 6,000                      |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                  | Relationships |           |         |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| HOWE LESLEY H<br>4545 TOWNE CENTRE COURT<br>SAN DIEGO, CA 92121 | X             |           |         |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Jason Hannon,  
Attorney-in-fact

05/22/2008

        \*\*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).

This option was granted pursuant to the Issuer's 2004 Equity Incentive Plan which provides for an automatic annual grant of an option to

(1) purchase 6,000 shares of common stock to each non-employee director on the date of each annual stockholders meeting. The 2008 annual stockholders meeting occurred on May 22, 2008.

(2) This option vests and becomes exercisable in 12 equal installments on each monthly anniversary of the date of grant (May 22, 2008).

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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