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PAYNE MEI Form 4	LVIN C											
May 21, 2012	2											
FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION									APPROVAL			
Check this		Washington, D.C. 20549						Number:	3235-0287			
if no long subject to Section 16 Form 4 or Form 5 obligation may conti <i>See</i> Instru 1(b).	Filed purs Section 17(a)	STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, action 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940								Expires: January 31 200 Estimated average burden hours per response 0.		
(Print or Type R	esponses)											
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <u>*</u> PAYNE MELVIN C			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CARRIAGE SERVICES INC [CSV]				-	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer				
(Last)	(First) (M	iddle) 3.	3. Date of Earliest Transaction					(Cnec	(Check all applicable)			
3040 POST OAK BLVD, SUITE 300			(Month/Day/Year) 05/18/2012					X Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify below) below) CEO				
Filed			. If Amendment, Date Original ïled(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 				
HOUSTON,	TX 77056							Person		porting		
(City)	(State) (Z	Zip)	Table	I - Non-Do	erivative S	Securi	ities Acc	quired, Disposed of	f, or Beneficial	lly Owned		
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of Code (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or Code V Amount (D) Price				5. Amount of Securities6. Ownershi Form: Direct BeneficiallyBeneficially Owned(D) or Indirect (I)Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)				
Common Stock	05/18/2012			F	Amount 9,575	(D) D	Price \$ 7.26	1,521,383	D			
Common Stock								3,818	Ι	Spouse		
Common Stock								10,800	Ι	minor daughter		

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

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number.

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. orNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	3	Date	Amou Under Secur	le and unt of rlying ities . 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secu Bene Owno Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Add	ress	Relationships							
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other					
PAYNE MELVIN C 3040 POST OAK BLVD SUITE 300 HOUSTON, TX 77056	Х		CEO						
Signatures									
/s/ Melvin C. Payne	05/21/2012								
**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) Represents 9575 shares withheld on May 18, 2012 to cover taxes associated with the vesting of shares of restricted stock granted on May 18, 2010 to the Reporting Person under the Carriage Services, Inc. Amended and Restated 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.