Elliott Paul Donald Form 3 September 05, 2012

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement CARRIAGE SERVICES INC [CSV] A Elliott Paul Donald (Month/Day/Year) 08/31/2012 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 5219 LAURELWOOD (Check all applicable) (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) Director 10% Owner _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Officer _X_ Other Person KINGWOOD, TXÂ 77345 (give title below) (specify below) Form filed by More than One Regional Partner Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) **Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned** 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Ownership (Instr. 4) Ownership (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) D Â Common Stock $12,000 \frac{(1)}{}$ Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of	5. Ownership Form of Derivative	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of	Derivative Security	Security: Direct (D) or Indirect	

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Shares (I) (Instr. 5)

(Histi. 5)

Performance Award $\stackrel{(2)}{=}$ \hat{A} $\stackrel{(2)}{=}$ 08/31/2017 $\stackrel{\text{Common}}{\text{Stock}}$ 50,000 \$9 $\stackrel{(3)}{=}$ D \hat{A}

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Elliott Paul Donald 5219 LAURELWOOD Â Â KINGWOOD, TXÂ 77345

Signatures

/s/ Paul D. 09/05/2012 Elliott

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) Restricted Stock grant pursuant to the Carriage Services, Inc. Amended and Restated 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan which vest 1/3 on 08/31/2013, 1/3 on 08/31/2014 and 1/3 on 08/31/2015. Granted upon employment.
 - Represents performance-based stock awards granted under the Carriage Services, Inc. Second Amended and Restated 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan. The award will vest (if at all) on or before August 31, 2017 on the date on which the closing price of Carriage's Common

Regional Partner

- (2) Stock is greater than or equal to \$21.50 for the third time, whether or not consecutive, within a period of 30 consecutive calendar days. If these conditions are satisfied on or prior to the first anniversary of the grant date, which is August 31, 2013, then the vesting date of these awards will be August 31, 2013; provided that the Reporting Person has remained continuously employed by Carriage through such date.
- (3) The award represents the right of the Reporting Person to receive shares of Carriage Services, Inc. Common Stock in exchange for payment of a purchase price equal to \$9.00 per share.

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.

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