

Amphastar Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
 Form 4  
 December 17, 2015

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2015  
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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 \*  
 Lee Howard

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 Amphastar Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
 [AMPH]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/15/2015

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

C/O AMPHASTAR  
 PHARMACEUTICALS,  
 INC., 11570 6TH STREET

(Street)

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

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

RANCHO  
 CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

(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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount or Price		
Common Stock	12/15/2015		M		36,536 A \$ 11.68	146,437	D
Common Stock	12/15/2015		S		36,536 D \$ 14.342	109,901	D
Common Stock	12/16/2015		M		1,926 A \$ 11.68	111,827	D
Common Stock	12/16/2015		S		1,926 D \$ 14.33	109,901	D

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

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(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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 11.68	12/15/2015		M	36,536	<sup>(2)</sup> 12/18/2015	Common Stock	36,536
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 11.68	12/16/2015		M	1,926	<sup>(2)</sup> 12/18/2015	Common Stock	1,926

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Lee Howard C/O AMPHASTAR PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 11570 6TH STREET RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730	X			

## Signatures

/s/ Ken Stupak, by power of attorney  
Date: 12/17/2015

\_\_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) The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$14.30 to \$14.46, inclusive. The Reporting Person undertakes to provide to the Issuer, any security holder of the Issuer, or the staff of the

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Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.

(2) Shares subject to the option are fully vested and immediately exercisable.

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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