Kopczynski Casey C. Form 4 February 12, 2018

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

may continue.

Check this box

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

See Instruction 1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Kopczynski Casey C.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

Symbol

AERIE PHARMACEUTICALS INC

[AERI]

(Check all applicable)

02/08/2018

(First) (Middle)

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

Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify

below)

Chief Scientific Officer

C/O AERIE PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., 4301

EMPEROR BLVD., SUITE 400

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

DURHAM, NC 27703

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

Code (Instr. 8)

3.

TransactionAcquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

4. Securities

Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

5. Amount of

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Beneficial Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)

Ownership (Instr. 4)

(A)

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Price (D)

Common Stock

02/08/2018

Code V Amount 8,000 Α (1)

\$0 193,061 D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially 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.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

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1. Title of Derivativ Security (Instr. 3)	ve Conversion or Exercise	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative 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 1 9 (
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Stock Option (right to	וורוה	02/08/2018		A	36,000	(2)	02/08/2028	Common Stock	36,000	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Kopczynski Casey C. C/O AERIE PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 4301 EMPEROR BLVD., SUITE 400 DURHAM, NC 27703

Chief Scientific Officer

Signatures

/s/ Richard J. Rubino, Attorney-in-Fact for Casey C. Kopczynski

02/12/2018

**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) These shares of Common Stock are scheduled to vest, subject to the reporting person's continued employment with the issuer through the applicable vesting date, in equal installments on each of the first four anniversaries of February 8, 2018.
- (2) This option is scheduled to vest, subject to the reporting person's continued employment with the issuer through the applicable vesting date, in equal installments on each of the first 48 monthly anniversaries of February 8, 2018.

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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