Sanko Jamie M. Form 4 March 14, 2018

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

January 31, Expires: 2005

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

Form 5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Sanko Jamie M.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

EMPIRE RESORTS INC [NYNY]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Last)

(City)

(Instr. 3)

(First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

Director 10% Owner

(Check all applicable)

C/O MONTICELLO CASINO AND RACEWAY, ROUTE 17B, P.O.

BOX 5013

(State)

03/13/2018

(Month/Day/Year)

X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) below) Chief Accounting Officer

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

(Month/Day/Year)

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

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

MONTICELLO, NY 12701

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 1. Title of 3. Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

(Zip)

4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of Transaction(A) or Disposed of Code (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

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

Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4)

(D) Price Code V Amount

Common

per share

Stock, \$.01 03/13/2018 par value

10,000

10,000

D

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

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

1. Title of	f 2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exer	cisable and	7. Titl	le and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	e Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	TransactionNumber		Expiration D	ate	Amou	ınt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	/Year)	Under	rlying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivativ	Derivative		Securities		(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities		(Instr. 3 and 4)			Owne	
	Security				Acquired						Follo
					(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									A		
									Amount		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	or Namel		
									Number		
				C-1- V	(A) (D)				of		
				Code v	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Officer Other Director 10% Owner

Sanko Jamie M. C/O MONTICELLO CASINO AND RACEWAY ROUTE 17B, P.O. BOX 5013 MONTICELLO, NY 12701

Chief Accounting Officer

Signatures

/s/ Jamie M. 03/14/2018 Sanko

**Signature of Date Reporting Person

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).

Mr. Sanko was granted 10,000 restricted stock units ("RSUs") under the Empire Resorts, Inc. 2015 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended (the "Plan"), which RSUs vest annually in three equal installments, with one third vesting on March 13, 2019, one third vesting on March 13, 2020 and one third vesting on March 13, 2021. In the event of a Change in Control as such term is defined in the Plan, the RSUs shall vest immediately.

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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