

Penny Pamela J
 Form 4
 August 10, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2015
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
 Penny Pamela J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 HCC INSURANCE HOLDINGS INC/DE/ [HCC]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 08/08/2012

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 EVP & Chief Accounting Officer

C/O HCC INSURANCE HOLDINGS, INC., 13403 NORTHWEST FREEWAY

(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

HOUSTON, TX 77040

(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 Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock					13,516	D	
Common Stock	08/08/2012		M		23,900	A	\$ 20.86
Common Stock	08/08/2012		S		23,900	D	\$ 32.5886 <u>(1)</u>
Common Stock	08/09/2012		M		12,200	A	\$ 20.86

Signatures

Alexander M Ludlow as Attorney in Fact for Pamela J.
Penny

08/10/2012

__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) The price \$32.5886 represents a weighted average of sales prices ranging from \$32.49 to \$32.632. Full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price will be provided to the SEC, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer upon request.
- (2) The price \$32.613 represents a weighted average of sales prices ranging from \$32.51 to \$32.667. Full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price will be provided to the SEC, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer upon request.
- (3) Option to purchase granted pursuant to the 2001 Flexible Incentive Plan.
- (4) The options vest equally annually beginning 03/02/2008 @ 10,000 shares per year.
- (5) Option to purchase granted pursuant to the 2008 Flexible Incentive Plan.
- (6) The options vest equally annually beginning 11/15/2012 @ 10,000 shares per year.
- (7) The options vest equally annually beginning 11/19/2009 @ 20,000 shares per year.

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.