TANG ANTHONY M

Form 5

February 13, 2009

FORM 5 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Check this box if Washington, D.C. 20549

no longer subject to Section 16.
Form 4 or Form
5 obligations may continue.

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL
OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 1.0

Number:

Expires:

3235-0362

January 31,

2005

See Instruction
1(b). Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,
Form 3 Holdings Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section
Reported
Form 4 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Form 4

Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * TANG ANTHONY M			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP [CATY]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last) 777 NORTH I	(Last) (First) (Middle) NORTH BROADWAY		3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2008	_X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below) Senior EVP		
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (check applicable line)		

LOS ANGELES, CAÂ 90012

_X_Form Filed by One Reporting Person ___ Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

(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) (A) or		5. Amount of Securities Ownership Beneficially Form: Owned at end Direct (D) of Issuer's or Indirect Fiscal Year (I) (Instr. 3 and (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)			
G				Amount	(D)	Price	4)				
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	350,584	D	Â		
Common Stock	12/31/2008	Â	J <u>(1)</u>	2,165	A	\$ 17.9242	86,780	I	By ESOP		
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	80,322	I	As custodian for children		

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Common Stock	01/23/2008	Â	J(2)	1,166.343	A	\$ 22.5979	257,342.37	I	By spouse
Common Stock	04/22/2008	Â	J(2)	1,521.016	A	\$ 17.409	257,342.37	I	By spouse
Common Stock	07/22/2008	Â	J(2)	2,316.441	A	\$ 11.5	257,342.37	I	By spouse
Common Stock	10/21/2008	Â	J(2)	1,320.491	A	\$ 20.3578	257,342.37	I	By spouse
	eport on a separate lin	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 2270 (9-02)	

 $\label{thm:convergence} \begin{tabular}{ll} Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned \\ (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) \end{tabular}$

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)	of Deri Secu Acqu (A) of Disp of (I	Number Expiration Date			7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount of Number of Shares
Stock Option	\$ 15.0475	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	01/18/2002(3)	01/18/2011	Common Stock	26,360
Stock Option	\$ 16.275	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/21/2003(3)	02/21/2012	Common Stock	26,000
Stock Option	\$ 19.925	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	01/16/2004(3)	01/16/2013	Common Stock	47,500
Stock Option	\$ 24.8	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	11/20/2004(3)	11/20/2013	Common Stock	105,140
Stock Option	\$ 37	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/17/2006(4)	02/17/2015	Common Stock	39,820
Stock Option	\$ 36.24	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	01/25/2007(5)	01/25/2016	Common Stock	42,690
Stock Option	\$ 23.37	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/21/2009(6)	02/21/2018	Common Stock	44,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
TANG ANTHONY M	•	^	Â	^			
777 NORTH BROADWAY	ÂΧ	Ã	Senior	Ä			
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012			EVP				

Signatures

Anthony M.
Tang

**Signature of Reporting Person

O2/13/2009

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) ESOP Earning Allocation.
- (2) Dividend Reinvestment.
- (3) The option is fully exercisable.
- (4) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/17/06.
- (5) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 1/25/07.
- (6) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/21/09.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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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