

UNITED FIRE GROUP INC
 Form 4
 February 22, 2017

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 ERNST BARRIE W

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 UNITED FIRE GROUP INC
 [UFCS]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 118 2ND AVE SE
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 02/17/2017

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 VP/Chief Investment Officer

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401-1212
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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

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)
				(A) or (D)	Amount		
			Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price
Common Stock	02/17/2017		A		1,283	A	\$ 0
					14,164.3993	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)

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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. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 41.32	02/17/2017	(1)	A	5,307	(1) 02/17/2027	Common Stock	5,307

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ERNST BARRIE W 118 2ND AVE SE CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401-1212			VP/Chief Investment Officer	

Signatures

/s/ Barrie W. Ernst by Michael T. Wilkins,
Attorney-in-Fact 02/22/2017

__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) Options become vested and exercisable in equal installments on 02/17/2018, 02/17/2019, 02/17/2020, 02/17/2021 and 02/17/2022, respectively.

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.