

MARKEL ANTHONY F  
Form 4  
January 29, 2009

**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 \*  
MARKEL ANTHONY F

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O MARKEL CORPORATION, 4521 HIGHWOODS PKWY

(Street)

GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
MARKEL CORP [MKL]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
01/28/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Vice Chairman

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (A) or (D) Price   |   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 01/28/2009                           |  | G                              | V 8 D \$ 0  | 35,665 <sup>(1)</sup>   | I  | By Trust <sup>(1)</sup>           |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 172,715 <sup>(2)</sup>  | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 10,772  | I  | As Trustee <sup>(3)</sup>         |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 3,366   | I  | As Trustee <sup>(4)</sup>         |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 2,850   | I  | As Trustee <sup>(4)</sup>         |

|              |       |   |                   |
|--------------|-------|---|-------------------|
| Common Stock | 1,961 | I | As Trustee<br>(4) |
| Common Stock | 2,443 | I | By Trust<br>(5)   |

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)

| 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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Reporting Transaction (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |               |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer       | Other |
| MARKEL ANTHONY F<br>C/O MARKEL CORPORATION<br>4521 HIGHWOODS PKWY<br>GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060 | X             |           | Vice Chairman |       |

## Signatures

Linda S. Rotz, Attorney-in-fact for Anthony F. Markel  
01/29/2009

\*\*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) Mr. Markel is a Trustee and partial beneficiary of a series of Grantor Retained Annuity Trusts. End of period holdings also reflect change in form of beneficial ownership by reason of distribution of 21,077 shares from GRATs to Mr. Markel. The total reported herein reflects

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the aggregate of all such trusts.

- (2) Mr. Markel is a Trustee and partial beneficiary of a series of Grantor Retained Annuity Trusts. End of period holdings reflect change in form of beneficial ownership by reason of distribution of 21,077 shares from GRATs to Mr. Markel.
- (3) Mr. Markel is the Trustee of an inter vivos trust created by his spouse, now deceased, and in which Mr. Markel and his children retain a partial interest. Mr. Markel disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares held in the trust except to the extent of his partial interest.
- (4) Mr. Markel is Trustee of irrevocable trusts for the benefit of his children. Beneficial ownership of securities is expressly disclaimed.
- (5) Mr. Markel is the Trustee of a trust for the benefit of his children and their descendants and in which Mr. Markel retains a partial interest. Mr. Markel disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares held in the trust except to the extent of his partial interest.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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