FORM 4

obligations may continue. See

Instruction 1(b)

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Washington, [| D.C. | 20549 |
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| STATEMENT | OF CHANGES | IN BENEFICIAL |
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| OMB Number: | 3235-028 |
| Estimated average burd | len |
| hours per response: | 0. |
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OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| Name and Address of Reporting Person* Terrillion Scott | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Cara Therapeutics, Inc. [CARA] | | | | | | | | Check al | nship of Repo applicable) Director Officer (give tit | | Person(s) to Is 10% C Other | | | |
|---|---|--|--|-------------|--|---|---|--|--|------|---------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--|---|----------------|---|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O CARA THERAPEUTICS, INC. 4 STAMFORD PLAZA, 107 ELM STREET, 9TH | | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/02/2019 | | | | | | | | ľ | below) below) Sec'y; Chief Compliance & G.C. | | | | |
| FL (Street) CT 06902 | | | | 4. If | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | ne) X I | vidual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | |
| (City) | (St | ate) (2 | Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | , | erson | | | |
| | | Tabl | e I - Noi | n-Deriv | ative | Sec | curitie | s Ac | quired, | Dis | posed o | f, or | Ben | eficia | ally O | vned | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Da | | | | | Execution Date, | | Transaction Disposed Of Code (Instr. 5) | | ties Acquired (A) d Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 | | | nd So | ecurities eneficially | | Ownership orm: Direct O) or Indirect) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | v | Amount (A) or (D) | | (A) or (D) | Price | Tr | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | (1130.4) |
| Common | Stock | | | 12/02 | 2019 | | A | | 8,333(1 | l) | A \$0 | | 00 | 20,749 | | D | | | |
| Common Stock 12/04/2 | | | | /2019 | | | | s ⁽²⁾ 3,980 ⁽³⁾ D \$ | | \$17 | .05 | 16,769 | | D | | | | | |
| | | Та | | | | | | | | | sed of, onvertib | | | | y Own | ed | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deem Execution if any (Month/Da | Date, Trans | | | n of | | 6. Date Exercis Expiration Dat (Month/Day/Ye | | е | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Inst and 4) | | | 8. Price Derivat Securit (Instr. 5 | ve derivative Securitie | e S Illy | Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisa | | Expiration Date | Title | or Nur of | ount nber res | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Represents the number of shares that vested under a performance-based restricted stock unit award (the "RSU") based on the Issuer's satisfaction of certain performance criteria of the award. In light of the performance-based vesting conditions of the award, such shares were not reportable under Section 16 until vesting was determined, which occurred on December 2, 2019. The vested shares represents the second of three possible vesting events of the total number of shares subject to the award. The remaining shares subject to the award will vest only upon the satisfaction of additional performance vesting criteria. Each RSU represents the contingent right to receive one share of common stock of the Issuer.
- 2. This sale was effected pursuant to a "sell to cover" arrangement adopted by the Reporting Person in accordance with Rule 10b5-1 on September 6, 2018 to satisfy the tax withholding obligations triggered by the vesting and of the RSUs reported herein as described in greater detail in footnote (1), and does not represent a discretionary trade by the Reporting Person.
- 3. Represents the number of shares required to be sold by the Reporting Person to cover tax withholding as described in footnote (2).

Remarks:

/s/ Darren DeStefano, 12/04/2019 Attorney-in-Fact

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- * 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).

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

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 Number.