

STARNES WILLIAM STANCIL  
Form 4  
March 03, 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 \*  
STARNES WILLIAM STANCIL

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
PROASSURANCE CORP [PRA]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
03/02/2009

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Chairman / Chief Executive Officer

C/O PROASSURANCE CORPORATION, 100 BROOKWOOD PLACE

(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

BIRMINGHAM, AL 35209-6811

(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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	03/02/2009		P		336 <sup>(1)</sup>	A	\$ 47.5
					25,426	D	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

**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)		
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount Number Shares
Restricted Stock Units	(2)	02/26/2009		A	4,000	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	4,000
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 54.28					09/01/2008 <sup>(3)</sup>	09/01/2018	Common Stock	20,000
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 56.16					01/03/2008	07/01/2017	Common Stock	100,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
STARNES WILLIAM STANCIL C/O PROASSURANCE CORPORATION 100 BROOKWOOD PLACE BIRMINGHAM, AL 35209-6811	X		Chairman	Chief Executive Officer

## Signatures

Frank B. O'Neil as POA for W. Stancil  
Starnes 03/03/2009

\_\_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) Shares acquired in the amended and restated ProAssurance Stock Ownership Plan. Purchases under this plan are exempt under Rule 16b-3(c)
  - (2) Each Restricted Stock Unit (RSU) represents a contingent right to receive one share of ProAssurance Corporation common stock, issueable from the ProAssurance 2008 Equity Incentive Plan. The RSUs will vest if the reporting person remains continuously employed by ProAssurance or one of its subsidiaries until February 26, 2012 (three years from date of grant). Vesting will accelerate upon termination of employment as the result of (i) death; (ii) disability; or (iii) Good Reason, as defined in the reporting person's employment

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agreement with ProAssurance Corporation, or by action of the Compensation Committee of the ProAssurance Corporation Board of Directors. The RSUs will be settled in shares of ProAssurance Common Stock and in cash, with the cash portion being approximately equal to the federal, state, and local taxes.

(3) The options vest in five equal, yearly installments commencing on September 1, 2008

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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