**CELANO ED** Form 4

December 20, 2012

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

**OMB** Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

**OMB APPROVAL** 

response...

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

obligations

may continue.

Check this box

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* **CELANO ED** 

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Last)

(City)

(Middle)

ASTA FUNDING INC [ASFI]

X\_ Director

10% Owner

2115 GAMBLE ROAD

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

12/18/2012

Symbol

Officer (give title Other (specify

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

(Check all applicable)

below)

(Street)

(State)

(First)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Applicable Line)

\_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ 07076 (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3)

(Month/Day/Year)

4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

Reported Transaction(s)

or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

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 Conversion Security or Exercise (Instr. 3) Price of

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

5. Number 4. Transaction of Derivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) Acquired

(A)

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of 8. l **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

De

Sec

(In

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Derivative Security Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)

Code V (A) (D) Date Expira

Code V (A) (D) Date Expiration Title Amount Exercisable Date or

Number of Shares

Stock

Option (right to \$ 9.57 12/18/2012 A 7,500 (1) 12/17/2022 Common Stock 7,500

buy)

## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

CELANO ED
2115 GAMBLE ROAD X
SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ 07076

## **Signatures**

/s/ Ed Celano 12/20/2012

\*\*Signature of 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) The stock options will vest in three equal annual installments on December 18, 2013, December 18, 2014 and December 18, 2015.

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.

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