MARKEL CORP Form 4 January 05, 2006

## FORM 4

#### OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

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

Expires: January 31, 2005

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person ** GAYNER THOMAS SINNICKSON			2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol MARKEL CORP [MKL]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
(Last)  C/O MARKE CORPORATE HIGHWOOD	ION, 4521	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/05/2006	(Check all applicable)  Director 10% OwnerX Officer (give title Other (specify below)  EVP & Chief Investment Officer			
GLEN ALLE	(Street) N, VA 230	60	4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)					

(City)	(State) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owner							
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 onAcquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)  (A) or Amount (D) Price	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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Common Stock					24,159.402	D		
Common Stock					2,000	I	By Spouse	
Common Stock					2,061.752 <u>(1)</u>	I	401(K) Plan (2)	
Common Stock					446.66	I	By Trust	

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

#### Edgar Filing: MARKEL CORP - Form 4

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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)

1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		4. Transactio	5. orNumber	6. Date Exerc Expiration D		7. Title Amour		8. Price of Derivative	9. Nu Deriv
Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Montal Day) Teal)	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/		Underl Securit	ying	Security (Instr. 5)	Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

GAYNER THOMAS SINNICKSON C/O MARKEL CORPORATION 4521 HIGHWOODS PARKWAY GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060

**EVP & Chief Investment Officer** 

### **Signatures**

Thomas Sinnickson
Gayner
01/05/2006

\*\*Signature of Reporting Date
Person

## **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) This Form 4 is filed to update year-end 401(K) Plan holdings.

Holdings under the Markel Corporation 401(K) Plan are reported in units. The information reported herein is based on a plan statement (2) dated as of December 30, 2005 and utilizes the closing stock price on that date of \$317.05 per share. As of 12/30/2005, a unit under the Plan represented one share of Common Stock.

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.

Reporting Owners 2