WONG IRWIN Form 5

February 03, 2005

FORM 5

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0362 Number: January 31, Expires:

2005

no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Check this box if

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 1.0

See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Form 3 Holdings Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section Reported 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Form 4

Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person ** WONG IRWIN			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP [CATY]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last) 777 NORTH	(First)	(Middle)	3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2004	Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below) below) EVP - Branch Administration		
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (check applicable line)		

LOS ANGELES, CAÂ 90012

X Form Filed by One Reporting Person Form Filed by More than One Reporting

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-Dei	rivative Sec	curitie	s Acquire	d, Disposed of,	or Beneficially	y 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)	(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	Ownership Form:	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Common Stock	01/21/2004	Â	J <u>(1)</u>	Amount 11.838 (2)	(D)	Price \$ 26.352 (2)	4,499.547 (2)	D	Â
Common Stock	04/20/2004	Â	<u>J(1)</u>	9.86 (2)	A	\$ 31.72 (2)	4,499.547 (<u>2)</u>	D	Â
Common Stock	07/20/2004	Â	J <u>(1)</u>	10.134	A	\$ 30.933 (2)	4,499.547 (2)	D	Â

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Common Stock	10/22/2004	Â	J <u>(1)</u>	11.267	A	\$ 35.852	4,499.547 (2)	D	Â
Common Stock	12/31/2004	Â	<u>J(3)</u>	198 (2)	A	\$ 31.21 (2)	20,337 (2)	I	By ESOP
Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.			Persons w contained the form d	SEC 2270 (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. 6. Date Exercisable Number of Expiration Date Of (Month/Day/Year) Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)			7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount o Number o Shares
Stock Option	\$ 10.625 (2)	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	01/20/2005(4)	01/20/2010	Common Stock	3,576 <u>(2</u>
Stock Option	\$ 15.0475 (2)	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	01/18/2005(5)	01/18/2011	Common Stock	6,448 <u>(2</u>
Stock Option	\$ 16.275 (2)	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/21/2005(6)	02/21/2012	Common Stock	11,088 (2)
Stock Option	\$ 19.925 (2)	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	01/16/2005(7)	01/16/2013	Common Stock	30,064 (2)
Stock Option	\$ 24.8 (2)	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	11/20/2004(8)	11/20/2013	Common Stock	143,040 (2)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
rioporting o where realized	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
WONG IRWIN 777 NORTH BROADWAY LOS ANGELES, CA 90012	Â	Â	EVP - Branch Administration	Â				

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Signatures

Irwin Wong 02/03/2005

**Signature of Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

Date

- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Dividend Reinvestment.
- (2) Adjusted to reflect a 2-for-1 stock split effective 9/28/04.
- (3) ESOP Earning Allocation.
- (4) The option vests in 1 equal annual installments beginning 1/20/05.
- (5) The option vests in 2 equal annual installments beginning 1/18/05.
- (6) The option vests in 3 equal annual installments beginning 2/21/05.
- (7) The option vests in 4 equal annual installments beginning 1/16/05.
- (8) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 11/20/04.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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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