

WONG IRWIN  
Form 5  
February 14, 2012

**FORM 5**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0362  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 1.0

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).  
Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

**ANNUAL 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

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) (First) (Middle)

3. Statement of Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)  
12/31/2011

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
EVP - Branch Administration

777 NORTH BROADWAY

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

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

(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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Amount Price			
Common Stock	03/10/2011	Â	J <sup>(1)</sup>	3.096 A \$ 16.9312	10,496.46	D	Â
Common Stock	06/10/2011	Â	J <sup>(1)</sup>	3.553 A \$ 14.7576	10,496.46	D	Â
Common Stock	09/12/2011	Â	J <sup>(1)</sup>	4.555 A \$ 11.5171	10,496.46	D	Â
Common Stock	12/15/2011	Â	J <sup>(1)</sup>	4.127 A \$ 12.7274	10,496.46	D	Â

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Common Stock 12/31/2011 Â J<sup>(2)</sup> 47.3247 A \$ 13.68 16,725.73 I By ESOP

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

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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. 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)
					(A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title Amount Number Shares
Stock Option	\$ 16.275	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	02/21/2005 <sup>(3)</sup> 02/21/2012	Common Stock 11,08
Stock Option	\$ 19.925	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	01/16/2005 <sup>(3)</sup> 01/16/2013	Common Stock 30,06
Stock Option	\$ 24.8	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	11/20/2004 <sup>(3)</sup> 11/20/2013	Common Stock 143,0
Stock Option	\$ 37	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	02/17/2006 <sup>(3)</sup> 02/17/2015	Common Stock 32,58
Stock Option	\$ 36.24	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	01/25/2007 <sup>(3)</sup> 01/25/2016	Common Stock 31,00
Stock Option	\$ 23.37	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	02/21/2009 <sup>(4)</sup> 02/21/2018	Common Stock 20,00
Restricted Stock Units	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	Â <sup>(6)</sup> Â <sup>(6)</sup>	Common Stock 3,84
Restricted Stock Units	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	Â <sup>(7)</sup> Â <sup>(7)</sup>	Common Stock 4,77

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

WONG IRWIN  
777 NORTH BROADWAY  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

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^ EVP - Branch  
Administration

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## Signatures

Irwin Wong

02/14/2012

\*\*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) Dividend Reinvestment.

(2) ESOP Earning Allocation.

(3) The option is fully exercisable.

(4) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/21/09.

(5) Consists of long term restricted stock units within the meaning of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, as amended from time to time, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder ("EESA"). Each unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of CATY Common Stock.

(6) These restricted stock units are scheduled to vest in a single installment on March 23, 2013, or earlier in the event of death or disability, and are subject to certain transfer restrictions under EESA.

(7) These restricted stock units are scheduled to vest in a single installment on December 15, 2013, or earlier in the event of death or disability, and are subject to certain transfer restrictions under EESA.

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