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GABELLI EQUITY TRUST INC Form 4 March 30, 2009 OMB APPROVAL FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB 3235-0287 Washington, D.C. 20549 Number: Check this box January 31, Expires: if no longer 2005 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to Estimated average **SECURITIES** Section 16. burden hours per Form 4 or response... 0.5 Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction 1(b). (Print or Type Responses) 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **CONN JAMES P** Issuer Symbol GABELLI EQUITY TRUST INC (Check all applicable) [GAB.D] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) 03/26/2009 (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ 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 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 4. Securities 6. Ownership 7. Nature of 3. 5. Amount of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Beneficially Beneficial Disposed of (D) (D) or anv (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned Ownership (Instr. 8) Indirect (I) Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Series D Preferred 182 \$25 818 03/26/2009 D D D Stock

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.

 Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
 (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exer	cisable and	7. Title and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	onNumber	ber Expiration Date		Amount of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day	/Year)	Underlying	Security	Secu
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securities	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr. 3 and 4)		Owne
	Security				Acquired					Follo
					(A) or					Repo
					Disposed					Trans
					of (D)					(Instr
					(Instr. 3,					
					4, and 5)					
						Date Expiration Exercisable Date		Amount		
								or		
							Title Number of			
				Code V	(A) (D)			Shares		
				code v	(II) (D)			Sildres		
Dama										

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
CONN JAMES P	х						
Cianaturaa	1						
Signatures							

Bruce N. Alpert as Attorney-in-Fact for James P. 03/30/2009 Conn

**Signature of Reporting 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).

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.

Date