

AETNA INC /PA/
Form 4
April 24, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
HANCOCK ELLEN M

(Last) (First) (Middle)

P. O. BOX 169

(Street)

RIDGEFIELD, CT 06877

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
AETNA INC /PA/ [AET]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
04/21/2006

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock				(A) or (D)	8,000	D	

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.

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(9-02)

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

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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)	Amount or Number of Shares
PHANTOM STOCK UNITS ⁽¹⁾	<u>(2)</u>	04/21/2006		A	21.231	<u>(1)</u> <u>(1)</u>	COMMON STOCK	21.231

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
HANCOCK ELLEN M P. O. BOX 169 RIDGEFIELD, CT 06877		X		

Signatures

ELLEN M. HANCOCK, BY PAIGE L. FALASCO, ATTORNEY IN FACT

04/24/2006

__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).

UNITS ACCRUED UNDER THE AETNA INC. NON-EMPLOYEE DIRECTOR COMPENSATION PLAN (THE "PLAN")

(1) PURSUANT TO DEFERRAL OF DIRECTOR'S FEES. SUBJECT TO TERMS OF PLAN, UNITS MAY BE SETTLED IN AETNA COMMON STOCK, IN CASH OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH UPON REPORTING PERSON'S RETIREMENT.

(2) UNITS CONVERT TO COMMON STOCK ON A ONE FOR ONE BASIS.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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