FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  STEPAN F QUINN                          |       |   |  |            |   | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol STEPAN CO [ SCL ] |   |  |   |                     |                       |                 |  | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)                                      |   |  |  |                                 |                   |
|---|-------|---|--|------------|---|---|---|--|---|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--|--|---|--|--|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| STEPAN F QUINN  |       |   |  |            |   |   |   |  |   |                     |                       |                 |  | X  | Director  |  | 10% Owner  |                                 | ner               |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 22 W. FRONTAGE ROAD                                       |       |   |  |            |   | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/01/2018   |   |  |   |                     |                       |                 |  | 1  | Officer (gi<br>below)   | ve title   |  | Other (s<br>below)              | pecify            |
| (Street) NORTHFIELD IL 60093  |       |   |  |            | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)    |   |   |  |   |                     |                       |                 | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)     X Form filed by One Reporting Person     Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |  |   |  |  |                                 |                   |
| (City)  | (5    | State)  | (Zip)                                      |            |   |   |   |  |   |                     |                       |                 |  |  |   |  |  | ·                               |                   |
|   |       |   | Table I - N                                | lon-[      | Deriva  | ative   | Sec                                     | urities Ac   | quire   | d, Di               | isposed (             | of, or B        | enefic   | ially (  | Owned   |  |  |                                 |                   |
| [   |       |   | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |            | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) |   | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8) |  | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and |                     |                       | nd 5)           | Beneficially Following   |  | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | irect Ind<br>direct Be<br>4) Ov  | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership                         |                                 |                   |
|   |       |   |  |            |   |   |   |  | v   | Amount              | (A) (D)               | or Pri          | ce   | Reported<br>Transaction(s<br>(Instr. 3 and 4   | ransaction(s)   |  | (In  | (Instr. 4)                      |                   |
| Common  | Stock |   |  | 12/18/2017 |   |   |   | G  | v   | 14,178              | 3 [                   |                 | \$ <mark>0</mark>  | 273,784  |   | D  |  |                                 |                   |
| Common Stock  |       |   |  | 02         | 02/01/2018  |   |   |  | M   |                     | 43,203.1              | .57 A           |  | (1)  | 316,987.  | 157  | D  | ,                               |                   |
| Common Stock  |       |   |  | 02         | 02/01/2018  |   |   |  | D <sup>(2)</sup>  |                     | 42,113.0              | .005 D          |  | 78.42  | 274,874.152   |  | D  | ,                               |                   |
| Common Stock  |       |   |  | 02         | )2/01/2018  |   |   |  | F <sup>(3)</sup>  |                     | 457.31                | 19 D \$         |  | 78.42  | 274,416.833   |  | D  |                                 |                   |
| Common Stock  |       |   |  |            |   |   |   |  |   |                     |                       |                 |  |  | 102.45  | 6  | I  |                                 | y Esop II<br>rust |
| Common Stock  |       |   |  |            |   |   |   |  |   |                     |                       |                 |  | 170,26   | 9   | I  | B  | y Spouse                        |                   |
| Common Stock  |       |   |  |            |   |   |   |  |   |                     |                       |                 |  | 508,655  |   | I Ve   |  | epan<br>enture II<br>artnership |                   |
|   |       |   | Table II                                   |            |   |   |   | rities Acq<br>, warrants                           |   |                     |                       |                 |  |  | wned  |  |  |                                 |                   |
| Derivative Conversion Date Execut<br>Security or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any |       | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Da<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/ | Date, Transaction<br>Code (Instr.          |            |   |   |   | 6. Date Exercis<br>Expiration Dat<br>(Month/Day/Ye |   | te Securities Under |                       | ying Derivative |  | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s) |   | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |                                 |                   |
|   |       | Code V (A) (D)                                      |  | (D)        |   |   | Expiration<br>Date                      | Title  | Amou<br>Numb<br>Share   | er of               |                       |                 | 4)   |  |   |  |  |                                 |                   |
| Share<br>Units <sup>(4)</sup>   | (5)   | 02/01/2018  |  |            | M   | 43,203.157  |   | (6)  |   | (6)                 | Common<br>Stock 43,20 |                 | 03.157   | (1) 343,9  |   | 903.406 D  |  |                                 |                   |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Share Units converted on a one-for-one basis into Common Stock. The Share Units were acquired under the Management Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated Effective January 1, 2015) ("MIP"), a nonqualified deferred compensation plan which allows MIP participants to elect to defer all or a portion of their deferred compensation into accounts pursuant to MIP provisions.
- 2. Reflects Share Units that were settled in cash pursuant to the terms of the MIP. Pursuant to the terms of the MIP, amounts deferred are distributed to MIP participants in accordance with the terms of the MIP.
- 3. Reflects shares withheld in connection with settlement of stock-settled share units under the MIP. Pursuant to the terms of the MIP, amounts deferred are distributed to MIP participants in accordance with the terms of the MIP.
- 4. Share Units were acquired under the MIP.
- 5. Share Units convert on a one-for-one basis into Common Stock
- 6. Amounts deferred into Share Units are distributed to the participant in ten installments following the end of employment.

/s/ Matthew M. Rice, attorney-02/01/2018 in-fact for F. Quinn Stepan

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- \* 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.

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