FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Washington, D.C. 20049

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-028

OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

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

| | | | | | | | | | | | <u> </u> | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|---|----------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------|--------------------|---|------------|---|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* HURLBUTT JAMES E | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol STEPAN CO [SCL] | | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner | | | | | | | |
| , | | | | | _ | | | | | | | | | , | | (give title | е | | er (spe | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) | | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | below) | | | | · | | |
| 22 W. FRONTAGE ROAD | | | | | | 09/10/2012 | | | | | | | | | V.P. & Chief Financial Officer | | | | | | |
| 22 W. I KOMINGE KOM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (0) | | | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable | | | | | | |
| (Street) NORTHFIELD IL 60093 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | X Form filed by One Reporting Person | | | | | | |
| NORTH | FIELD II | ı | 00093 | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | • | | n One Re | | | |
| , | | | | | - | | | | | | | | | | Persoi | | iore iria | I Olle Re | sportii | ig | |
| (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Tab | le I - N | on-Deri | vative | e Sec | curit | ies Ac | quired | l, Di | sposed o | of, or Be | nefic | iall | y Owned | ŀ | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/ | | | | | ction | | | | 3. | | | es Acquirec | | | | | 6. Ownership | | 7. Nature of | | |
| | | | | | ay/Year | | | n Date, | Transa Code (| | Disposed (| Of (D) (Instr | r. 3, 4 a | nd | Securities Beneficial | | Form: (D) or I | Direct ndirect | Indire Bene | | |
| | | | | | | (Mo | (Month/Day/Year) | | 8) | | | | | | | Owned Following Reported | | tr. 4) | Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | • | Transactio | | | | (| , | |
| | | | | | | - | | | (1) | | | 1 . | 1 | | <u> </u> | | | | | | |
| Common Stock 09/06/20 | | | | | /2012 | | | | M ⁽¹⁾ | | 3,029 | A | \$51 | .21 | 7,217 | .588 |] | D | | | |
| Common Stock 09/06/20 | | | | | /2012 |)12 | | S ⁽¹⁾ | | 2,939 | D | \$9 | \$98 4 | | 278.588 | | D | | | | |
| Common Stock 09/06/20 | | | | | /2012 |)12 | | | S ⁽¹⁾ | | 90 | D | \$00 | 8.11 4,18 | | 3.588 | | , | | | |
| Common Stock 09/06/20 | | | | | /2012 | 4 | | | 3\'/ | | 30 | l D | Ψ30 | .11 | 4,100 | .500 | | | | | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 95. | | 366 | | | | ESOP | |
| | otoen | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | II Tı | rust | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Mer | nber | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | of Plan | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 309,917 | | I | | Committee | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | of Stepan | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Con | npany | |
| | | 7 | Shle II | - Deriva | ative | Seci | ıritie | e Veui | uired | Die | posed of | or Ben | efici | ally | Owned | | | | | | |
| | | ' | abic ii | | | | | | | | converti | | | | Ownea | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of | 2. | 3. Transaction | 3A. Dee | med | 4. | | 5. N | umber | 6. Date I | Exerci | sable and | 7. Title an | ıd | | 8. Price of | 9. Numl | per of | 10. | | 11. Nature | |
| Derivative Security | Conversion or Exercise | Date (Month/Day/Year) | Execution Date, if any | | Transa Code (| | | | Expiration (Month/l | | | | | | | | derivative Securities | | | of Indirect Beneficial | |
| (Instr. 3) | Price of | (Montin Day rear) | | Day/Year) | 8) | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, | Securities Acquired (A) or | | (1110111111 | Juyiii | cuij | Underlying Derivative Securi (Instr. 3 and 4) | | (Instr. | (Instr. 5) | Benefic | | Form: Direct (I | D) Ownersh | Ownership | |
| | Derivative Security | | | | | | | | | | | | | ity | | Owned Followin | | or Indire (I) (Instr | | instr. 4) | |
| | | Disp of (D | | | osed | | | | | | Reporte Transac | | | | , · · · · · | | | | | | |
| | | | | | (Instr. 3, 4 | | | | | | | | | (Instr. 4 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | - | | and 5) | | Т | | | | Ι. | _ | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | Amoi or | unt | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Date | | Expiration | | Numl | ber | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | | Exercisa | able | Date | Title | Share | es | | | | | | | |
| Employee | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \top | | |
| Stock Option | \$51.21 | 09/06/2012 | | | M ⁽¹⁾ | | | 3,029 | 02/09/2 | 012 | 02/08/2018 | Common | 3,02 | ₂₉ | \$0 | 0 |) | D | | | |
| (Right to | | | | | | | | | | | | Stock | | | | | | | | | |
| Buy) | I | I | I | | l | I | 1 | ı I | | - 1 | | I | 1 | - 1 | | I | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Transaction completed pursuant to a 10b5-1 trading plan.

James E. Hurlbutt

09/10/2012

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

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

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 Number.

^{*} 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).