FORM 4

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See

Instruction 1(b).

Check this box if no longer subject to

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP |
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OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

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* <u>Ahlers David M</u> | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol GRACO INC [GGG] | | | | | | | | eck all applic | tionship of Reporting Personal Communication (all applicable) Director Officer (give title below) Vice President | | 10% Owner Other (specify below) | |
|--|---|--|---|--------|-------------------------------|---|--|-------------------|--|---|--|-----------------|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 88 11TH AVENUE NE | | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/12/2016 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (Street) MINNEAPOLIS MN 55413 (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | | 4. 1 | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ne) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | |
| | | Tak | le I - Non | -Deriv | /ative | e Se | curities | s Ac | quired, Di | ispose | ed o | of, or Be | neficial | v Owned | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Trans Date | | | | action | | | | 3. Transaction | 4. S | 4. Securities Acquired (A Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, | | ed (A) or | 5. Amou Securitie Beneficia Owned F | nt of 6. Fo ally (D) Following (I) | | : Direct r Indirect str. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | |
| | | | | | | | | Code V | Ame | ount | (A) or (D) | Price | | ransaction(s) nstr. 3 and 4) | | (| (Instr. 4) | |
| | | - | | | | | | | uired, Dis , options, | | | | | Owned | | | · | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution E if any (Month/Day | Date, | 4. Transa Code (i 8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 6. Date Exerc Expiration D (Month/Day/ | ate | nd 7. Title and Am of Securities Underlying Derivative Secu (Instr. 3 and 4) | | ies g Security | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Numbe derivative Securities Beneficia Owned Following Reported Transactic (Instr. 4) | e s Illy J | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expira Date | tion | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | | |
| Non- qualified Stock Option (Right to | \$71.54 | 02/12/2016 | | | A | | 21,170 | | (1) | 02/12/2 | 2026 | Common Stock | 21,170 | \$0 | 21,17 | 0 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Employee stock option granted pursuant to the Graco Inc. 2015 Stock Incentive Plan in transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3. The stock option becomes exercisable in four equal annual installments, commencing one year after the date of the grant.

/s/ Francis J. Brixius Jr., attorney-in-fact for Mr. Ahlers

02/16/2016

** 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.

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.