

MERCURY GENERAL CORP
 Form 4
 May 15, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 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 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 *
SIMON PETER

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
**MERCURY GENERAL CORP
 [MCY]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
555 W. IMPERIAL HWY.
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
05/12/2006

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 Vice President

BREA, CA 92821
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	05/12/2006		M	1,000 A \$ 22.0625	1,000	D	
Common Stock					1,196 ⁽⁴⁾	I	ESOP Plan
Common Stock	05/12/2006		S	1,000 D \$ 57.832 0		D	

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

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number.

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

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)		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
						Code	V	(A)	(D)
Common Stock	\$ 22.0625	05/12/2006		M	1,000	12/10/2000 ⁽¹⁾	12/10/2009	Common Stock	1,000
Common Stock	\$ 44.8209					11/06/1999 ⁽²⁾	11/06/2008	Common Stock	6,000
Common Stock	\$ 29.77					10/27/2001 ⁽³⁾	10/27/2010	Common Stock	4,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SIMON PETER 555 W. IMPERIAL HWY. BREA, CA 92821			Vice President	

Signatures

Judy Walters, Attorney-in-Fact for Pete Simon 05/15/2006

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).

(1) Options granted 12/10/99, vested 20% per year for five years

(2) Options granted 11/6/98, vested 20% per year for five years

(3) Options granted 10/27/00, vested 20% per year for five years

(4) Includes ESOP allocations and dispositions since last report

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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