

Penny Pamela J  
 Form 4  
 November 21, 2008

**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 \*  
 Penny Pamela J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 HCC INSURANCE HOLDINGS INC/DE/ [HCC]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)  
 \_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 EVP & Chief Accounting Officer

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 C/O HCC INSURANCE HOLDINGS, INC., 13403 NORTHWEST FREEWAY

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 11/19/2008

(Street)  
 HOUSTON, TX 77040

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
				Code	V	Amount	

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

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**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)		
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
<u>(1)</u> Option to Purchase	\$ 19.73					<u>(2)</u> 08/26/2010	Common Stock	37,500	
<u>(3)</u> Option to Purchase	\$ 27.56					<u>(4)</u> 07/22/2011	Common Stock	35,000	
<u>(1)</u> Option to Purchase	\$ 31.11					<u>(5)</u> 03/02/2013	Common Stock	50,000	
<u>(6)</u> Option to Purchase	\$ 20.86	11/19/2008		A	100,000	<u>(7)</u> 11/19/2014	Common Stock	100,000	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Penny Pamela J C/O HCC INSURANCE HOLDINGS, INC. 13403 NORTHWEST FREEWAY HOUSTON, TX 77040			EVP & Chief Accounting Officer	

## Signatures

Edward H. Ellis, Jr. as Attorney in Fact for Pamela J. Penny  
 \*\*Signature of Reporting Person  
 Date 11/21/2008

## 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) Option to purchase granted pursuant to the 2001 Flexible Incentive Plan.
- (2) The options vest equally annually beginning 8/26/05 @ 7,500 shares per year.
- (3) Option to purchase granted pursuant to the 2004 Flexible Incentive Plan.
- (4) The options vest equally annually beginning 7/22/06 @ 7,000 shares per year.
- (5) The options vest equally annually beginning 3/2/08 @ 10,000 shares per year.
- (6) Option to purchase granted pursuant to the 2008 Flexible Incentive Plan.

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(7) The options vest equally annually beginning 11/19/09 @ 20,000 shares per year.

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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