Snapper Suzanne D. Form 4 December 21, 2009

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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(b).

(Last)

(City)

Security

(Instr. 3)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Snapper Suzanne D.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

ENSIGN GROUP, INC [ENSG]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

Director 10% Owner

(Check all applicable)

27101 PUERTA REAL, STE 450

(Month/Day/Year)

X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) below)

12/17/2009

CFO

(Street)

(State)

(Month/Day/Year)

(First)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691

(Zip) 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed

3. 4. Securities Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Securities Form: Direct Indirect Beneficially (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership Owned (T) Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

> Reported (A) Transaction(s)

(Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

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)

1. Title of 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed 4. 5. Number of 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and Amount of Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if **Transaction**Derivative **Expiration Date Underlying Securities** Security or Exercise any Code Securities (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3 and 4)

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(Instr. 3) Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) Derivative or Disposed of Security (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) Code V (A) (D) Date Expiration Title Amount Exercisable Date or Number of Shares Employee Stock Common (1) 12/17/2019 Option \$ 14.88 10,000 10,000 12/17/2009 A Stock (right to buy)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Snapper Suzanne D.
27101 PUERTA REAL, STE 450
MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691

Signatures

Daniel H. Walker, as attorney-in-fact

12/21/2009

**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) The option vests in five equal annual installments beginning on December 17, 2010.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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