FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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Check this box if no longer subject to
Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5
bligations may continue. See
nstruction 1(h)

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL									
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Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Name and Address of Reporting Person*     Starling William N JR				2. I <u>A</u> S	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ASENSUS SURGICAL, INC. [ ASXC ]								Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)     Director 10% Owner							
(Last) (First) (Middle) 345 GOLDEN HILLS DRIVE					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 06/30/2021										(give title			specify		
(Street) PORTOI VALLEY (City)	Z CA		94028 (Zip)		4. 1	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/								6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)     X 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. Transact Date (Month/Day					Execution Date,		Transaction Disposed Code (Instr.		4. Securities Disposed O		5)   Se   Be   O\	Beneficially Owned Following		6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership				
							Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)					Instr. 4)			
Common	Stock			07/01/	2021	021		A		13,846(1)(	2) <b>A</b>	\$0.00	(1)	40,856		D				
Common Stock														18,134			Ι Ι΄	See Footnote <sup>(3)</sup>		
Common Stock													22,849				See Footnote <sup>(4)</sup>			
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. Deer Execution if any (Month/E	n Date, Trans Code			of		6. Date Exercis Expiration Date (Month/Day/Yea		e	7. Title an Amount of Securities Underlyin Derivative (Instr. 3 a	of S Ig Security	8. Pric Deriva Secur (Instr.		9. Numb derivativ Securiti Benefici Owned Followir Reporte Transac (Instr. 4)	ive ies Form: Direct (ior Indirect) ing ed etion(s)		Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisa	ıble	Expiration Date	Title	Amoun or Numbe of Shares							
Stock Option <sup>(5)</sup>	\$3.17	06/30/2021			A		4,310		12/31/20	21 <sup>(6)</sup>	06/30/2028	Common Stock	4,310	\$	60.00	4,3	10	D		

## Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Represents restricted stock units ("RSUs"). Each RSU represents the right to receive one share of the Registrant's common stock.
- 2. Forfeiture restrictions will lapse on the RSUs on the first anniversary of the date of grant, provided that if the date of the 2022 annual meeting of stockholders is earlier, the restrictions will lapse on the date of the annual meeting.
- 3. Shares of Common Stock held by Synecor, L.L.C. The Reporting Person is the chief executive officer of Synecor, L.L.C. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
- $4. \ Shares of \ Common \ Stock \ held \ by \ W. \ Starling \ and \ D. \ Starling, \ Trustees \ of the \ Starling \ Family \ Trust, \ UDT \ August \ 15, \ 1990.$
- 5. Represents an equity award issued under the Registrant's Amended and Restated Incentive Compensation Plan in lieu of an annual cash retainer, paid quarterly in arrears for the quarter ended June 30, 2021.
- 6. The award is fully exercisable six months after the grant date, subject to earlier acceleration as approved by the Board of Directors.

## Remarks:

/s/ Joshua Weingard, as attorney-in-fact for William N. 07/02/2021 Starling

\*\* 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.