FORM 4

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

Washington, D.C. 20549	
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STATEMENT	<b>OF CHANGE</b>	S IN BENE	FICIAL O	WNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL								
OMB Number: 3235-0287								
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).

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. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ASENSUS SURGICAL, INC. [ ASXC ]							(Che	elationship of the control of the co	able) r	g Pers	10% Ov	vner		
(Last) (First) (Middle) 345 GOLDEN HILLS DRIVE					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/31/2021									below)	(give title		Other (s below)	вресну 	
(Street) PORTOI VALLEY (City)	? C.		94028 (Zip)								Line	) <mark>K</mark> Form fi	r Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable n filed by One Reporting Person n filed by More than One Reporting on						
	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																		
Date			2. Transac Date (Month/Da	Execution Date,		Code (Instr.   5)		ties Ac	quired ) (Instr.	(A) or 3, 4 and	5. Amou Securitie Beneficia Owned F Reported	s ally following	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	Transact (Instr. 3	ion(s)			(111501.4)							
	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 Da if any (Month/Day/Y	Co	Transaction Code (Instr.				6. Date Exercisal Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year			7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Sec (Instr. 3 and 4)			8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4)	e s Illy	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Co	ode V	,	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisabl		Expiration Date	Title	N O	Amount or Number of Shares					
Stock Option <sup>(1)</sup>	\$3.25	03/31/2021			A		3,628		10/01/2021	(2)	03/31/2028	Comr		3,628	\$0.00	3,628		D	

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. 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 March 31, 2021.
- 2. 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. 04/02/2021 **Starling** 

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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.