ASHLAND INC. Form 4 January 06, 2016

FORM 4

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

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Form 4 or

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)

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading WILLIS J KEVIN Issuer Symbol ASHLAND INC. [ASH] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner Other (specify X_ Officer (give title 50 E. RIVERCENTER BLVD. 01/04/2016 below) Chief Financial Officer (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting COVINGTON, KY 41011 Person

| (City) | (State) (| (Zip) Table | I - Non-D | erivative ! | Secur | ities Acqu | uired, Disposed of | , or Beneficiall | y Owned |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|--|-----------|--------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1.Title of Security | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if | 3. | 4. Securit | | • | 5. Amount of Securities | 6. Ownership Form: Direct | 7. Nature of Indirect |
| (Instr. 3) | (World Buy Tear) | any | Code | n(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | Beneficially | (D) or | Beneficial | |
| | | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | | | | Owned Following Reported | Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | (A) or | | Reported Transaction(s) | | |
| | | | Code V | Amount | (D) | Price \$ | (Instr. 3 and 4) | | |
| Common Stock | 01/04/2016 | | M | 169 | A | 102.7 (1) | 13,020 | D | |
| Common Stock | 01/04/2016 | | F(2) | 53 | D | \$ 102.7 | 12,967 (3) | D | |

Common $15,117 \frac{(4)}{}$ Ι 401(k)Stock

Common 887 (5) I **LESOP** Stock

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

OMB APPROVAL

Estimated average

burden hours per

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

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Number:

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

| Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Price Derivati Security (Instr. 5) |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------|--|--|--|
| | | | Code V | (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | |
| Common Stock Units | <u>(6)</u> | 01/04/2016 | M | 169 | <u>(7)</u> | <u>(7)</u> | Common Stock | 169 | \$ 0 |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

WILLIS J KEVIN 50 E. RIVERCENTER BLVD. COVINGTON, KY 41011

Chief Financial Officer

Signatures

/s/ Jennifer I. Henkel, Attorney-in-Fact

01/06/2016

**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) Shares of common stock received in settlement of an equal number of common stock units as described in footnote (7) below.
- (2) Payment of tax liability by withholding securities incident to the conversion of common stock units referenced in footnote (7) below.
- (3) Includes 12,736 shares of unvested Restricted Stock and also includes 45 additional shares of Common Stock acquired in lieu of cash dividends on December 15, 2015 and exempt under Rule 16b-3.
- (4) Based on Employee Savings Plan information as of December 31, 2015, the latest date for which such information is reasonably available.

Reporting Owners 2

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- (5) Shares accrued under Ashland's Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan as of December 31, 2015.
- **(6)** 1 for 1.
 - The common stock units were converted into shares of common stock pursuant to an election for fixed schedule distributions established by the reporting person under the Ashland Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan for Employees (2005) (the "Employee Deferral Plan"). Fixed
- (7) schedule distributions under the Employee Deferral Plan must be made not less than two years measured from the beginning of the plan year after the plan year in which the election is made. Each common stock unit under the Employee Deferral Plan entitles a participant to receive one share of Ashland common stock or the cash value thereof.
- Balance includes 56 additional Common Stock Units acquired in lieu of cash dividends on December 15, 2015 pursuant to Ashland's

 (8) Deferred Compensation Plan (the "Plan") and exempt under Rule 16b-3. One (1) Common Stock Unit in the Plan is the equivalent of one (1) share of Ashland Common Stock).

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.