Blankenship George Form 4 December 28, 2012

FORM 4

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

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

subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Check this box

if no longer

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

See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Blankenship George	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)			
(Last) (First) (Middle)	TESLA MOTORS INC [TSLA] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction				
3500 DEER CREEK ROAD	(Month/Day/Year) 12/27/2012	Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (special below) VP- WW Sales & Ownership Exp			
(Street)	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			
PALO ALTO, CA 94304		Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	le I - Non-I	Derivative :	Securi	ities Acqu	iired, Disposed of	f, or Beneficial	ly 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. Securit or(A) or Dis (Instr. 3, 4)	sposed	of (D)	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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	12/27/2012		M	14,114	A	\$ 14.17	14,314	D	

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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative 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
Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 14.17	12/27/2012		M	14,114	<u>(1)</u>	06/11/2017	Common Stock	14,114

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Blankenship George 3500 DEER CREEK ROAD PALO ALTO, CA 94304

VP- WW Sales & Ownership Exp

Signatures

/s/ George

Blankenship 12/28/2012

**Signature of Date Reporting Person

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) 1/4th of the shares subject to the option become vested and exercisable one year from hire date and 1/48th of the shares subject to the option shall become vested and exercisable each month thereafter.

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.

Reporting Owners 2