

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

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

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0287
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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>BILBREY JOHN P</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>100 CRYSTAL A DRIVE</u>  (Street) <u>HERSHEY PA 17033</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>HERSHEY CO [ HSY ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>President and CEO</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>05/24/2012</u>	
	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially 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. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	05/24/2012		M		18,635	A	\$35.87	103,519	D	
Common Stock	05/24/2012		s <sup>(1)</sup>		18,635	D	\$68.01	84,884	D	
Common Stock	05/24/2012		M		23,337	A	\$34.89	108,221	D	
Common Stock	05/24/2012		s <sup>(1)</sup>		23,337	D	\$68.01	84,884	D	
Common Stock	05/24/2012		M		52,032	A	\$39.26	136,916	D	
Common Stock	05/24/2012		s <sup>(1)</sup>		52,032	D	\$68.01	84,884	D	
Common Stock								306,045	I	401(k) Plan

**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 Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative 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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Non-qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$35.87	05/24/2012		M <sup>(1)</sup>			18,635	(2)	02/12/2018	Common Stock	18,635	\$0	0	D	
Non-qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$34.89	05/24/2012		M <sup>(1)</sup>			23,337	(3)	02/16/2019	Common Stock	23,337	\$0	24,213	D	
Non-qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$39.26	05/24/2012		M <sup>(1)</sup>			52,032	(4)	02/22/2020	Common Stock	52,032	\$0	52,633	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

- The exercise and sale reported in this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on May 18, 2012.
- The options vest according to the following schedule: 25% vested on February 13, 2009, 25% vested on February 13, 2010, 25% vested on February 13, 2011 and 25% vested on February 13, 2012.
- The options vest according to the following schedule: 25% vested on February 17, 2010, 25% vested on February 17, 2011, 25% vested on February 17, 2012 and 25% will vest on February 17, 2013.
- The options vest according to the following schedule: 25% vested on February 23, 2011, 25% vested on February 23, 2012, 25% will vest on February 23, 2013 and 25% will vest on February 23, 2014.

John P. Bilbrey 05/25/2012

\*\* 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.

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