

Darden James Matthew
 Form 4
 January 05, 2018

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 Darden James Matthew

(Last) (First) (Middle)

TORCHMARK CORPORATION, 3700 SOUTH STONEBRIDGE DRIVE

(Street)

MCKINNEY, TX 75070

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 TORCHMARK CORP [TMK]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 01/04/2018

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

___ Director ___ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)
 EVP, Chief Strategy Officer

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 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. 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 Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--------|---|--|-----------------------------------|------------|
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | | | | (A) or (D) |
| Common Stock | 01/04/2018 | | M | | | 16,500 | \$ 53.61 | 16,500 | D | |
| Common Stock | 01/04/2018 | | S | | | 12,750 | \$ 90.8938 | 3,750 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | 0 | | | I | N/A |

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)

| 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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 53.61 | 01/04/2018 | | M | 16,500 | 02/25/2018 ⁽³⁾ 02/25/2022 | Common Stock | 16,500 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Darden James Matthew TORCHMARK CORPORATION 3700 SOUTH STONEBRIDGE DRIVE MCKINNEY, TX 75070 | | | EVP, Chief Strategy Officer | |

Signatures

James Matthew Darden by Carol A. McCoy, Attorney-in-Fact
 Signature: _____ Date: 01/04/2018

**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) sales at prices ranging from \$90.80 per share to \$91.03 per share.
- (2) Reporting person will provide full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price upon request by the SEC staff, the issuer or any security holder of the issuer.
- (3) First exercisable as to 50% of shares 2-25-17 and as to remaining 50% of shares 2-25-18.

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.