August Raymond Alexander Form 4 January 02, 2018

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

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January 31, 2005

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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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

(0, ,)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading August Raymond Alexander Issuer Symbol Benefitfocus, Inc. [BNFT] (Check all applicable) (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title _ Other (specify 100 BENEFITFOCUS WAY 12/31/2017 below) President and COO (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 CHARLESTON, SC 29492 Person

(City)	(State) (A	Table Table	I - Non-D	erivative S	ecuriti	ies Acq	puired, Disposed o	of, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securit	ies Acc	quired	5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	tion Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of			Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect	
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	(D)			Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3, 4	and 5)	Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership
							Following	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)
							Reported		
					(A)		Transaction(s)		
					or		(Instr. 3 and 4)		
			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price	,		
Common Stock	12/31/2017		A	56,169 (1)	A	\$0	279,673	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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. onNumber 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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Performance Restricted Stock Units	(2)					(2)	12/31/2017	Common Stock	40,000
Performance Restricted Stock Units	(3)					(3)	04/01/2018	Common Stock	9,090
Performance Restricted Stock Units	<u>(4)</u>					<u>(4)</u>	04/01/2021	Common Stock	27,270

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
Transfer of the control of the contr	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
August Raymond Alexander 100 BENEFITFOCUS WAY CHARLESTON, SC 29492			President and COO				

Signatures

/s/ S. Halle Vakani, Attorney-in-Fact 01/02/2018

**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) Represents restricted stock units which vest in five equal annual installments beginning on December 31, 2018, subject to continued employment.

Each performance restricted stock unit ("PRSU") represents a contingent right to receive one share of Issuer common stock. The maximum number of PRSUs is presented in the table. PRSUs vest upon the achievement of adjusted EBITDA and compounded annual

(2) revenue growth rate goals during the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017. Vesting of the target level PRSUs will accelerate upon death or disability in an amount equal to the proportion of days in the performance period worked. Vesting of the target PRSUs may also accelerate in certain circumstances if there is a change in control of the Issuer during the performance period.

(3)

Reporting Owners 2

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Each PRSU represents a contingent right to receive one share of Issuer common stock. The maximum number of PRSUs is presented in the table. A percentage of the PRSUs will vest upon the achievement of annual revenue goals and free cash flow goals, all subject to a minimum adjusted EBITDA level, during the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. Vesting of the target level PRSUs will accelerate upon death or disability in an amount equal to the proportion of days in the performance period worked. Vesting of the target PRSUs may also accelerate in certain circumstances if there is a change in control of the Issuer during the performance period.

Each PRSU represents a contingent right to receive one share of Issuer common stock. The maximum number of PRSUs is presented in the table. The PRSUs will vest upon the achievement of annual recurring revenue bookings percentage growth goals during the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, such vesting to occur in four equal annual installments beginning on April 1, 2018, if the performance metrics are met. Vesting of the target level PRSUs will accelerate upon death or disability in an amount equal to the proportion of days in the performance period worked. Vesting of the target PRSUs may also accelerate in certain circumstances if there is a change in control of the Issuer during the performance period.

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.