FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

| washington, D.C. 20549 | |
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| | OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | OMB Number: 3235-028 | | | | | | | | |
| | Estimated average burden hours per response: 0. | | | | | | | | |
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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).

| | | | | | or Secti | ion 30(h) of the | Investme | nt Con | npany Act | of 19 | 940 | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|------------------------------------|--------|-----------|---------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|--|---|---|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* Rubino Alan L | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Vericel Corp VCEL | | | | | | | | elationship eck all appli | g Person(s) to | Issuer | | |
| | | | | ļ | | | | | | | _ : | X Directo | or | 10% | Owner | | |
| (Last) | (F | irst) | (Middle) | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/09/2024 | | | | | | | Officer below) | (give title | Othe belo | er (specify w) | | |
| C/O VERICEL CORPORATION 64 SIDNEY STREET | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | | | |
| OF SIDNET STREET | | | | | | | | | | | | | X Form f | Form filed by One Reporting Person | | | |
| (Street) | IDCE M | [A | 02139 | | | | | | | | | | Form f Persor | | e than One Ro | eporting | |
| CAMBR | IDGE IV | IA | 02139 | İ | Dulo | 10b5 1(c) | Trans | acti | on Inc | lica | tion | | | | | | |
| (City) | (S | tate) | (Zip) | | Rule 10b5-1(c) Transaction Indication Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Tab | le I - Non- | Deriva | tive Se | curities Ac | quired, | Disp | osed o | of, o | r Ben | eficial | ly Owned | ł | | | |
| Date | | | 2. Transac Date Month/Da | Execution Date, | | 3. Transaction Dispose Code (Instr. 5) | | | | | Benefici Owned | es ally Following | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Ownership | | | |
| | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | | (A) or (D) | Price | Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | (Instr. 4) | |
| Common Stock 04/0 | | | | 04/09/2 | 2024 | | М | | 3,000 | 0 ⁽¹⁾ A | | \$4.12 | 2 20 | ,594 | D | | |
| | | Т | | | | urities Acqı s, warrants | • | | | , | | , | Owned | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Da if any (Month/Day/ | ate, Tr | ransaction ode (Instr. | ı of | 6. Date E Expiratio (Month/D | n Date | | Amo Sec Und Deri | itle and ount of urities lerlying ivative So tr. 3 and | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficiall Owned Following Reported Transactio | Owners Form: Direct (or Indir (I) (Insti | Beneficial Ownership ect (Instr. 4) | |

Explanation of Responses:

\$4.12

Stock Option

Buy)

(Right to

1. The Reporting Person has elected to exercise and hold these shares at this time.

04/09/2024

2. These options, representing the right to purchase a total of 3,000 shares, became exercisable in equal monthly installments, contingent upon continued service to the Company, with the first vesting date on June 7, 2014, which was one month after the date on which the option was granted.

Date

Exercisable

(2)

(D)

Expiration Date

(3)

Title

Stock

and 5)

(A)

3,000

ν Code

M

3. These options, which were awarded on May 7, 2014, would otherwise expire and become forfeitable on May 7, 2024.

/s/ Sean Flynn, as Attorney-in-04/11/2024 Fact for Alan Rubino

Amount or Number

of Shares

3,000

\$<mark>0</mark>

0

D

** 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.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.