FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Washington,    | D C  | 20540 |
|----------------|------|-------|
| vvasiliigtoii, | D.C. | 20049 |

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APP             | OMB APPROVAL |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------|--------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:         | 3235-0287    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average I | ourden       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response  | 0.5          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Colangelo Dominick</u> |  |            |  |                | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol Vericel Corp [ VCEL ]   |  |                     |                                   |  |   |                     |   |   | Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)     X Director 10% Owner |   |   |  |  |  |
|--|--|------------|--|----------------|--|--|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| (Last)   | (F<br>IEY STREE  | ŕ          | (Middle)                                     |                |  |  | of Earliest<br>2023 | Trans                             | saction (M   | lonth.  | /Day/Year)          |   | X Officer below)  | (give title<br>Presiden   | t and   | Other (specify below)                               | specify  |  |  |
| (Street)   |  |            | 02139  |                |  | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) |                     |                                   |  |   |                     |   |   |   | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicane)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |   |  |  |  |
| (City)   | (S   | itate)     | (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 satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10. |  |                     |                                   |  |   |                     |   |   |   | nat is intende  | d to  |  |  |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)                                    |  |            | 2. Transa                                    | 2. Transaction |  | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,                            |                     | Transaction Disposed Code (Instr. |  | of, or Beneficially<br>ties Acquired (A) or<br>d Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |                     | 5. Amou<br>Securitie<br>Benefici<br>Owned I   | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Following |   | n: Direct<br>r Indirect<br>estr. 4)   | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership |  |  |  |
|  |  |            | Code   |                |  |  |                     | v                                 | Amount   | (A) o<br>(D)  | Price               | Reporte<br>Transac<br>(Instr. 3   | tion(s)   |   |   | (Instr. 4)  |  |  |  |
| Common   | Stock  |            |  | 12/13/20       |  | 3  |                     |                                   | <b>G</b> <sup>(1)</sup>                                    |   | 6,757               | D   | \$0   | 169,  | 169,985(2)  |   | D  |  |  |
| Common   | ommon Stock  |            |  | 12/13          | 12/13/2023   |  |                     |                                   | М  |   | 12,000              | 0 A   | \$3.5   | 7 181,  | 181,985(2)  |   | D  |  |  |
| Common   | Common Stock   |            | 12/13  | 12/13/2023     |  |  |                     | S                                 |  | 12,000  | $\mathbf{D}^{(3)}$  | \$34.0  | 169,  | 169,985(2)  |   | D   |  |  |  |
| Common Stock   |  | 12/14      | 14/2023                                      |                |  |  | М                   |                                   | 12,000   | 12,000 A  |                     | 7 181,985 <sup>(2)</sup>  |   |   | D   |   |  |  |  |
| Common   | Stock  |            |  | 12/14          | 1/2023   | 3  |                     |                                   | S  |   | 12,000              | $D^{(3)}$   | D <sup>(3)</sup> \$37.12 169,985 <sup>(4)</sup>               |   |   |   | D  |  |  |
|  |  | -          | Table II -                                   |                |  |  |                     |                                   |  |   | osed of<br>converti |   | -   | Owned   |   |   |  |  |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)                | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Ye |            | 3A. Deem<br>Execution<br>if any<br>(Month/Da | Date,          | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr<br>8)   |  |                     |                                   | 6. Date Exercisable<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |   | te                  | and 7. Title and Ar<br>of Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Sec<br>(Instr. 3 and 4 |   | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)   | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficial<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactio<br>(Instr. 4)                     | e<br>s<br>illy<br>j                                 | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |
|  |  |            |  |                | Code   | v  | (A)                 | (D)                               | Date<br>Exercisa   | ble   | Expiration<br>Date  | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares                        |   |   |   |  |  |  |
| Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy)                               | \$3.57   | 12/13/2023 |  |                | M  |  | 12,000              |                                   | (4)  |   | (5)                 | Common  | 12,000  | \$0   | 12,00   | 0   | D  |  |  |
| Stock<br>Option  | \$3.57   | 12/14/2023 |  |                | M  |  | 12,000              |                                   | (4)  |   | (5)                 | Common  | 12,000  | \$0   | 0   |   | D  |  |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

(Right to

Buv)

- 1. Reflects the gift of common stock to a charitable donor advised fund.
- 2. These shares include shares acquired pursuant to the Issuer's 2015 Employee Stock Purchase Plan in transactions that were exempt under both Rule 16b-3(d) and Rule 16b-3(e).
- 3. The sales reported in this Form 4 were effected by an automatic sale pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on September 1, 2023.
- 4. These options, representing the right to purchase 55,000 shares, became exercisable in equal quarterly installments, contingent upon continued service to the Company, with the first vesting date on April 3, 2014, which was one quarter after the date on which the option was granted.
- 5. These options, which were awarded on January 3, 2014, would otherwise expire and become forfeitable on January 3, 2024.

/s/ Sean Flynn, as Attorney-in-Fact for Dominick C. 12/15/2023

**Colangelo** 

Stock

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- $^{\star}$  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.