FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| STATEMENT | OF CHANGES | IN BENEFICIAL | OWNERSHIP |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|

| | OMB APPRO | VAL |
|---|------------------------|-----------|
| | OMB Number: | 3235-0287 |
| l | Estimated average burd | en |
| l | 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>Pelzer Francis J.</u> | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Benefitfocus, Inc. [BNFT] | | | | | | | | | | elationship eck all appl X Direct | • | | son(s) to Iss 10% Ov | | |
|---|---|---|---|----------------------------------|------|---|-----|-----------------|------------|--------------------------------------|------|-------------------|----------------|---|---|---|--|--|--|------------|--|
| (Last) 100 BEN | (F VEFITFOC | , | (Middle) | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/23/2019 | | | | | | | | | | Office below | (give title | | Other (s below) | specify | |
| (Street) CHARLESTON SC 29492 (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | | - | Li | | | | | | | | | Line | S. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ine) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transa Date (Month/D | | | saction | ction 2A. Deemed Execution Date, | | | e, | Code (Instr. 5) | | | | | (A) or | 5. Amou Securiti Benefic Owned | int of es ially Following | Form (D) o | n: Direct r Indirect istr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | _ | | v | Amount | (D) | | Price | Transac (Instr. 3 | Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | (Instr. 4) | |
| Common | Stock | 7 | able II - I | Deriva | | Secu | | | | | | sed of onverti | , or Be | | | | ,645 | | D | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | | 3A. Deeme Execution if any (Month/Da | Date, | | ransaction ode (Instr. | | of I | | Oate Exer piration C ponth/Day | Date | of Securities | | curity | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficiall Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4) | ly | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Dat Exe | e ercisable | | piration te | Title | or Nu of | nount mber ares | | | | | | |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$13.53 | | | | | | | | | (2) | 05 | /07/2023 | Commo Stock | 50 | ,000 | | 50,000 |) | D | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. This sale was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan executed by the reporting person on May 18, 2018 and effective on June 18, 2018.
- 2. This option is fully vested.

Remarks:

/s/ Donald R. Reynolds, Attorney-in-Fact 04/25/2019

** 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.