

ERNST BARRIE W

Form 4

March 12, 2018

FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
ERNST BARRIE W

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol
UNITED FIRE GROUP INC
[UFCS]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
118 2ND AVE SE
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
03/09/2018

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
____X____ Officer (give title ____ Other (specify
below) below)
VP/Chief Investment Officer

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401-1212

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
____X____ Form filed by One Reporting Person
____ Form filed by More than One Reporting
Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

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) |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Common Stock | 03/09/2018 | | M ⁽¹⁾ | 7,114 A | \$ 33.43 | 23,546.9374 D | |
| Common Stock | 03/09/2018 | | S ⁽¹⁾ | 7,114 D | \$ 47.43 | 16,432.9374 D | |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of
information contained in this form are not
required to respond unless the form
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(9-02)

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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 (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) | 8. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 33.43 | 03/09/2018 | | M ⁽¹⁾ | 7,114 | ⁽²⁾ 05/21/2018 | Common Stock | 7,114 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships |
|---|---|
| ERNST BARRIE W 118 2ND AVE SE CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401-1212 | Director 10% Owner Officer VP/Chief Investment Officer |

Signatures

/s/ Barrie W. Ernst by Michael T. Wilkins,
Attorney-in-Fact 03/12/2018

__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) Transaction pursuant to a 10b5-1 contract.

(2) All options currently exercisable.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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