

**FORM 4****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**OMB APPROVAL**

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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).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

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>Mulroy Michael H.</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>C/O ASTERIAS BIOTHERAPEUTICS, INC.</u> <u>6300 DUMBARTON CIRCLE</u>  (Street) <u>FREMONT CA 94555</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>Asterias Biotherapeutics, Inc. [ AST ]</u>  3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>01/25/2018</u>  4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>President and CEO</u>  6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person	
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**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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	01/25/2018		P		2,134	A	\$2.343 <sup>(1)</sup>	9,933	D	

**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 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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Stock Options (right to buy)	\$3.7							(2)	06/26/2027	Common Stock	800,000		800,000	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

1. The shares were purchased in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$2.325 to \$2.35. The price reported above reflects the weighted average purchase price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request to the SEC staff, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transaction was effected. The shares of common stock reported herein were purchased via a 10b5-1 plan established by the Reporting Person on August 16, 2017, under which the Reporting Person is dedicating approximately 25 percent of his monthly after-tax salary to the purchase of Asterias common stock.

2. Subject to Mr. Mulroy's continued employment with the Company, the stock options vest in equal monthly installments over 48 months commencing on July 31, 2017. The stock options are exercisable upon vesting.

/s/ Michael H. Mulroy

01/26/2018

\*\* 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.