FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Estimated average burden | |
| hours per response: | 0.5 |

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan for the purchase or sale of equity securities of the issuer that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10.

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* Bluestein Scott | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Hercules Capital, Inc. [HTGC] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify | | | | |
|--|--|----------------|---|---|---|------------|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. 31 ST. JAMES AVENUE, SUITE 1005 | | , | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/11/2024 | below) below) Chief Executive Officer | | | | |
| (Street) BOSTON MA (City) (State) | | 02116 (Zip) | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Indivi | dual or Joint/Group Filing (C Form filed by One Reporti Form filed by More than C | ing Person | | |

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) | | | 4. Securities Ac Disposed Of (D) | | | Securities Beneficially Owned | 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 | (Instr. 3 and 4) | | (IIISU: 4) |
| Common Stock | 07/11/2024 | | F | | 21,928(1) | D | \$21.11 | 2,261,207 | 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) | | Derivative | | Expiration Date | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | Derivative | derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | 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 | | Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | | |

Explanation of Responses:

Remarks:

/s/ Eileen Bagarella, Attorney-infact for Scott Bluestein

** Signature of Reporting Person

07/15/2024

Date

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

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.

^{1.} Represents shares of common stock withheld to pay taxes applicable to the vesting of restricted stock on July 11, 2024.

 $^{^{\}star}$ 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).