

CTI BIOPHARMA CORP
 Form 4
 December 23, 2015

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 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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
BIANCO JAMES A

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
CTI BIOPHARMA CORP [ctic]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 3101 WESTERN AVENUE, SUITE 600

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/23/2015

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 President and CEO

(Street)
 SEATTLE, WA 98121

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
 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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2015 | | D ⁽¹⁾ | 583,217 D \$ 0 | 2,368,302 | D | |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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| 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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------|-------------------------|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 1.24 | 12/23/2015 | | A | 6,000,000 | (2) | 12/23/2025 | Common Stock | 6,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| BIANCO JAMES A 3101 WESTERN AVENUE SUITE 600 SEATTLE, WA 98121 | X | | President and CEO | |

Signatures

By: Louis A. Bianco, Attorney-in-fact For: James A. Bianco 12/23/2015

**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) Represents the forfeiture back to CTIC of shares of restricted stock. The restricted shares were originally issued pursuant to a performance-based equity award effective as of January 3, 2012 and subsequently amended. The reporting person agreed to forfeit the restricted shares to the issuer. If a performance goal that had been applicable to such restricted stock is achieved by December 31, 2016, the reporting person will be entitled to the grant of a stock option from CTIC with respect to the same number of shares that would have been issued to the reporting person upon achievement of the goal under the original terms of the reporting person's long-term incentive award.

(2) The option is scheduled to vest in eight semi-annual installments over the four-year period following the grant date, subject to the reporting person's continued employment or service with the issuer through the applicable vesting date.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.