FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

| l | OMB APPRO | OVAL | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | | | | | |
| | Estimated average burden | | | | | | |
| ı | hours nor resnance. | 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 * $\underline{Musso\ Alan\ A}$ | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol TARGACEPT INC [TRGT] | | | | | | (Ch | eck all applic | cable) | Person(s) to Iss 10% Ov Other (s | vner | | |
|--|--------|--|-------|---|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O TARGACEPT, INC. | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/16/2006 | | | | | | | X Officer (give title Offier (specific below) VP, CFO, Treasurer & Secy | | | | | |
| 200 EAST FIRST STREET, SUITE 300 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (Street) WINSTO | ON- N | С | 27101 | 4. | If Ame | ndment, I | Date | of Original Fi | iled (| (Month/Da | ıy/Year) | Line | e) <mark>X</mark> Form f | iled by One R iled by More t | iling (Check Ap eporting Perso han One Repo | n |
| (City) | (S | tate) | (Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Date) | | | | Execution Date, | | | | | tr. 3, 4 and | Beneficia Owned F Reported | es Form ally (D) of Following (I) (II | orm: Direct D) or Indirect) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Derivative Conversion Date | | Date Execution Date, (Month/Day/Year) if any | | | ansaction of ode (Instr. Derivative | | 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) | Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | | kpiration ate | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |
| Stock option (right to buy) | \$5.55 | 08/16/2006 | | A | | 65,475 | | (1) | 08 | 3/15/2016 | Common Stock | 65,475 | \$0 | 65,475 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. This option vests in equal installments on the last day of 16 consecutive calendar quarters beginning with September 30, 2006.

Remarks:

/s/ Peter A. Zorn, Attorney-in-

Fact

** 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.