

MCMORAN EXPLORATION CO /DE/
 Form 4
 July 03, 2012

FORM

4

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

OMB APPROVAL
 OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 * FLORES JAMES C			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol MCMORAN EXPLORATION CO /DE/ [MMR]		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)		<input type="checkbox"/> Director	<input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner
700 MILAM, SUITE 3100			07/01/2012		<input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person	
HOUSTON, TX 77002						
(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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	07/01/2012		A ⁽²⁾	986 A	\$ 11,847	D	
				V Amount (D) Price			
				(A) or (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 displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SEC 1474
(9-02)

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

Edgar Filing: MCMORAN EXPLORATION CO /DE/ - Form 4

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)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)
--	--	--------------------------------------	--	--------------------------------	---	--	---	--

Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
------	---	-----	-----	------------------	-----------------	-------	----------------------------

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other

FLORES JAMES C
 700 MILAM
 SUITE 3100
 HOUSTON, TX 77002

Signatures

Kelly C. Simoneaux on behalf of John C. Flores, pursuant to a power of attorney

07/03/2012

__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) Amount beneficially owned following the reported transaction includes 5,313 Common Stock Restricted Stock Units.
- (2) Represents shares acquired pursuant to the Reporting Person's previous election to receive shares of common stock in lieu of cash for some or all of his annual retainer fee.

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.