| SEC Form 4 | |
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| FORM 4 | UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION |

Washington, D.C. 20549 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange

| led p | ursuant to | Section | 16(a) of th | e Securities | Exchange | Act of | 1934 |
|-------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|------------|--------|------|
| | or Section | i 30(h) of | the Invest | tment Comp | any Act of | 1940 | |

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person [*] GILMAN STEVEN C | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Akebia Therapeutics, Inc. [AKBA] | | | | | | | tionship of Reporting Person(s) to all applicable) Director 106 | | o Issuer % Owner |
|---|------------------------|---------------------|----------|--|---|--|-----|-------------|------------------|---|---|---|---------------------|
| (Last) C/O AKEBIA T | (First) HERAPEUTICS | (Middle) 5, INC. | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 06/08/2022 | | | | | | Officer (give title Other (specify below) below) | | | |
| 245 FIRST ST. | | | | | | | | | 6. Indi Line) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable | | | |
| (Street) CAMBRIDGE | МА | 02142 | | | | | | | | X | Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Table I - No | n-Deriva | ative S | ecurities Acqu | uired, | Dis | oosed of, o | r Bene | ficially | Owned | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) Date (Month/E | | | | | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4) | | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | |
| | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock | | | 06/08/ | /2022 | | Α | | 13,700(1) | A | \$0.00 | 57,130 | D | |
| | | | | | curities Acqui IIs, warrants, o | | | | | | wned | | |

| 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. Transa Code (8) | | Derivative | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | and 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 | 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 | | Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | | | |
| Stock Option (Right to buy) | \$0.45 | 06/08/2022 | | Α | | 20,100 ⁽²⁾ | | 06/08/2023 | 06/08/2032 | Common Stock | 20,100 | \$0.00 | 20,100 | D | | |

Explanation of Responses:

 The restricted stock units (the "RSUs") were granted by the Issuer pursuant to its 2014 Incentive Plan, as amended (the "2014 Plan"), as provided by the Issuer's Amended and Restated Non-Employee Director Compensation Program (the "Program"). The RSUs will vest in full (100%) on the first anniversary of the grant date, subject to the Reporting Person's continued service to the Issuer.
The option to purchase shares of the Issuer's common stock (the "Stock Option") was granted by the Issuer pursuant to the 2014 Plan, as provided by the Program. The Stock Option will vest and become

2. The option to purchase shares of the Issuer's common stock (the "Stock Option") was granted by the Issuer pursuant to the 2014 Plan, as provided by the Program. The Stock Option will vest and become exercisable in full (100%) on the first anniversary of the grant date, subject to the Reporting Person's continued service to the Issuer.

Remarks:

/s/ Carolyn Rucci, attorney-infact for Steven C. Gilman

rman Person Date

06/09/2022

** Signature of Reporting Person

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.

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