

COVENANT TRANSPORTATION GROUP INC  
 Form 4  
 September 16, 2009

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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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 \*  
 LOVIN RALPH H JR

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 COVENANT TRANSPORTATION GROUP INC [CVTI]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 400 BIRMINGHAM HIGHWAY  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 09/14/2009

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 EXECUTIVE VP ADMIN AND SEC.

CHATTANOOGA, TN 37419  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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

**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)
			Code	V Amount (D) Price			
Class A Common Stock	09/14/2009		A <sup>(1)</sup>	5,000 <sup>(1)</sup>	A \$ 0	57,126 <sup>(2)</sup>	D
Class A Common Stock						11,431 <sup>(3)</sup>	I 401(k)

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)

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)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Beneficially (Instr. 3 and 4)
				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
LOVIN RALPH H JR 400 BIRMINGHAM HIGHWAY CHATTANOOGA, TN 37419			EXECUTIVE VP ADMIN AND SEC.	

## Signatures

/s/ Ralph H. Lovin, Jr., by Heidi Hornung-Scherr, attorney-in-fact, pursuant to a POA previously filed with the SEC 09/16/2009

\_\_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 a restricted stock award under the 2006 Omnibus Incentive Plan, as such plan may be amended from time to time. The shares subject to the award vest when and if the issuer's Compensation Committee certifies that the issuer's consolidated diluted earnings per share, subject to certain adjustments as set forth in the award notice, for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2010 is equal to or greater than \$0.05.
- (2) Represents (i) the shares disclosed in footnote (1) above, (ii) 46,150 shares owned by the reporting person, and (iii) 5,976 restricted shares of the issuer's Class A common stock granted March 31, 2009, pursuant to a transaction previously reported by the reporting person (although the aggregate amount granted in the March 31, 2009, transaction was determined following the reporting deadline for the transaction as it was based upon the closing price of the issuer's Class A common stock two full trading days following the public release of the issuer's first quarter 2009 earnings).
- (3) The number of shares beneficially owned following the reported transaction is equal to the reporting person's August 31, 2009 account balance in the employer stock fund under the issuer's 401(k) plan divided by the closing price on August 31, 2009. The plan is unitized and as such does not itself allocate a specific number of shares to each participant.

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.