

BURNS JOHN J JR  
 Form 5  
 January 27, 2010

**FORM 5**

**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).  
 Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

**ANNUAL 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 BURNS JOHN J JR

(Last) (First) (Middle)

ALLEGHANY CORPORATION, 7 TIMES SQUARE TOWER, 17TH FLOOR

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10036

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 ALLEGHANY CORP /DE [Y]

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/31/2009

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(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)	(A) or (D)	Price	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	05/29/2009	Â	G	166	D	\$ (1) 71,131 (2)	D	Â	
Common Stock	06/25/2009	Â	G	100	D	\$ (1) 71,031	D	Â	
Common Stock	12/14/2009	Â	G	810	D	\$ (1) 70,221	D	Â	
Common Stock	12/14/2040	Â	G	400	D	\$ (3) 69,821	D	Â	

Common Stock	12/31/2009	Â	G	400	D	\$ (4) 848	I	Held by trust of which reporting person's spouse is sole trustee
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â 816	I	By spouse

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

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**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. of D Se B O E Is F (I
					(A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	

## Reporting Owners

**Reporting Owner Name / Address**

**Relationships**

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BURNS JOHN J JR  
ALLEGHANY CORPORATION  
7 TIMES SQUARE TOWER, 17TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10036

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## Signatures

Christopher K. Dalrymple,  
Attorney-in-Fact

01/27/2010

\*\*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) Gift of shares of Alleghany common stock to non-family member third parties for no consideration.
- (2) Includes 202 shares of common stock that were erroneously reported as having been gifted in a Form 5 filed on February 8, 2006.
- (3) Gift to family members who do not share reporting person's household
- (4) Gift of shares for no consideration

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.