FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL             |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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).

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* <u>ALEXANDER STEPHEN B</u> |  |      |           |                                | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CIENA CORP [ CIEN ] |      |   |          |  |        |   |   |                                       |              | Check  | all app   | onship of Reportir<br>all applicable)<br>Director<br>Officer (give title |  | 10% O   |   |
|---|--|------|-----------|--------------------------------|---|------|---|----------|--|--------|---|---|---------------------------------------|--------------|--|---|--|--|---|---|
|   | (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O CIENA CORPORATION 7035 RIDGE RD.   |      |           |                                | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/15/2016     |      |   |          |  |        |   |   |                                       |              | X  | belov   | ow) `  |  | below) nology Officer   |   |
| (Street) HANOVER MD 21076-142 (City) (State) (Zip)                  |  |      |           | 26                             | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)        |      |   |          |  |        |   |   |                                       |              | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)     X Form filed by One Reporting Person     Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |   |  |  |   |   |
|   |  | Tabl | e I - Nor | n-Deriv                        | ative   | Se   | curiti  | es Ac    | quired   | , Dis  | posed o                                   | f, or   | Ben                                   | efici        | ally (   | Owne  | ed   |  |   |   |
| ·························   D                                       |  |      |           |                                | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year)                      |      | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) |          | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8)                        |        | 4. Securities Ac<br>Disposed Of (D)<br>5) |   | s Acquired (A)<br>of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 |              | and Secur<br>Bene  |   | cially<br>I Following  | Form:<br>(D) or  | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|   |  |      |           |                                |   |      |   |          | Code   | v      | Amount                                    |   | (A) or<br>(D)                         | Price        | ,  | Transa  | ransaction(s)<br>Instr. 3 and 4)   |  |   | (   |
| Common Stock  |  |      |           | 09/15/2016                     |   |      |   | S        |  | 3,5000 | 1) <b>D</b> §                             |   | \$2                                   | 21.1 133,970 |  | 3,970(2)  |  | D  |   |   |
|   | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |      |           |                                |   |      |   |          |  |        |   |   |                                       |              |  |   |  |  |   |   |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)                 | tive Conversion Date Execution Date ty or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any   |      |           | Date, Transaction Code (Instr. |   | n of |   | Expirati | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |        |   | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr.<br>and 4) |                                       |              |  | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction<br>(Instr. 4) | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4)        | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |   |   |
|   |  |      |           |                                | Code  | v    | (A)   | (D)      | Date<br>Exercisa   |        | Expiration<br>Date                        | Title   | or<br>Nur<br>of                       | nber         | r  |   |  |  |   |   |

## Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Sales were effected pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 trading plan dated 9/19/2014.
- 2. Shares reported include unvested Restricted Stock Units (RSUs) and Performance Stock Units (PSUs).

By: Michelle Griswold For: Stephen B. Alexander

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

09/15/2016

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.