

FORM 4

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

| OMB APPROVAL | |
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| 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).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|------------|---|---|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person Les Jason | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Riot Blockchain, Inc. [RIOT] | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) Chief Executive Officer | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O RIOT BLOCKCHAIN, INC., 3855 AMBROSIA STREET, STE 301 | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/14/2022 | | | | | | |
| (Street) CASTLE ROCK, CO 80109 | | | 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 | | |
| (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) |
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (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)**

| 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 Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|---|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|-----|---|-----------------|--|---|---|---|---|-------|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | | | | | Title |
| Restricted Stock Units | \$ 0 (1) | 01/14/2022 | | A | | 50,000 | | (2) | (2) | Common Stock | 50,000 | \$ 0 (1) | 344,867 (3) | D | |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Les Jason C/O RIOT BLOCKCHAIN, INC. 3855 AMBROSIA STREET, STE 301 CASTLE ROCK, CO 80109 | X | | Chief Executive Officer | |

Signatures

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| /s/ Jason Les | 01/18/2022 |
| <small>**Signature of Reporting Person</small> | <small>Date</small> |

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).

Pursuant to the Riot Blockchain, Inc. 2019 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended, (the "Plan") each performance-based restricted stock unit ("PSUs") represents a contingent right to receive one share of the Issuer's common stock, no par value per share, ("Common Stock") subject to any net settlement permitted under the Plan and approved by the Issuer's Compensation and Human Resources Committee (the "Committee"), following vesting and settlement by the Issuer.

- (1) On August 12, 2021, the Reporting Person was granted PSUs, which are eligible to vest contingent upon the Issuer's achievement of certain performance criteria during the performance period ending on December 31, 2023. The Committee determined that, as of December 31, 2021, the performance criteria corresponding to 50,000 PSUs had been achieved. Accordingly, the 50,000 PSUs reported on this Form 4 became vested and eligible to be settled by the Issuer as restricted stock units in accordance with the Plan.
- (2) Represents the total direct and indirect beneficial ownership of the security held by the Reporting Person immediately following the issuance reported by this Form 4.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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