FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

**OMB APPROVAL** OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

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>Kaufmann Mark</u> |   |  |   |         |                               | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ARDELYX, INC. [ ARDX ] |   |     |   |                         |  |  |           |  | eck all applic   | or<br>(give title   |    | on(s) to Issu<br>10% Ow<br>Other (s                                      | ner   |  |
|---|---|--|---|---------|-------------------------------|--|---|-----|---|-------------------------|--|--|-----------|--|--|---|----|--|---|--|
| C/O ARDELYX, INC.   |   |  |   |         |                               | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/19/2017        |   |     |   |                         |  |  |           |  | below)   |   |    | below)   | респу   |  |
| 34175 ARDENWOOD BLVD, SUITE 200                               |   |  |   |         |                               | If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)              |   |     |   |                         |  |  |           |  | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable                              |   |    |  |   |  |
| (Street) FREMONT CA 94555                                     |   |  |   |         |                               |  |   |     |   |                         |  |  |           |  | X Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |   |    |  |   |  |
| (City)  | (S  | tate)                                      | (Zip)   |         |                               |  |   |     |   |                         |  |  |           |  | Person   |   |    |  |   |  |
|   |   | Tab  | le I - Nor  | n-Deriv | /ative                        | e Se   | curities  | Acc | uired, [                                | Disp                    | posed o  | f, or E  | Bene      | eficiall                               | y Owned  |   |    |  |   |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transar Date (Month/Date) |   |  |   |         |                               | ear)   | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) |     | 3.<br>Transac<br>Code (In<br>8)         |                         | 4. Securities Acquired (A)<br>Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4<br>5) |  |           |  |  | es For<br>ally (D)<br>Following (I) (   |    | : Direct<br>r Indirect<br>str. 4)  | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership |  |
|   |   |  |   |         |                               |  |   |     | Code                                    | v                       | Amount   | (A<br>(D   | ) or<br>) | Price                                  | Reported<br>Transact<br>(Instr. 3 a  | ion(s)  |    |  | (Instr. 4)  |  |
| Common Stock 01/19/   |   |  |   |         |                               | 2017   |   | A   |   | 17,985 <sup>(1)</sup> A |  | \$0.00   | 21,5      | 21,585 <sup>(2)</sup>                  |  | D   |    |  |   |  |
|   |   | 7  | Гable II -  |         |                               |  | urities <i>i</i><br>ls, warra                               |     |   |                         |  |  |           |  | Owned  |   |    |  |   |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)           | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution I<br>if any<br>(Month/Day | Date,   | 4.<br>Transa<br>Code (I<br>8) |  |   |     | 6. Date Exe<br>Expiration<br>(Month/Day | Date                    |  | le and 7. Title and Am<br>of Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Secu<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |           |  | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)                                | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s<br>(Instr. 4) | ly | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)               |  |
|   |   |  |   |         | Code                          | v  | (A)   |     | Date<br>Exercisable                     |                         | Expiration<br>Date   | Title  | 0 0       | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |  |   |    |  |   |  |
| Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to                                  | \$13.9  | 01/19/2017                                 |   |         | A                             |  | 74,233  |     | (3)                                     | 0                       | 1/19/2027  | Commo<br>Stock   |           | 74,233                                 | \$0.00   | 74,233  | 3  | D  |   |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Restricted stock units ("RSUs"). The Reporting Person is entitled to receive one (1) shares of Common Stock for each one (1) RSU upon the vesting thereof.
- $2.\ Includes\ an\ aggregate\ of\ 2,318\ shares\ acquired\ under\ the\ Issuer's\ Employee\ Stock\ Purchase\ Plan\ on\ February\ 29,\ 2016\ and\ August\ 31,\ 2016.$
- 3. The option becomes exercisable as it vests and the shares subject to the option vest in 48 successive, equal monthly installments on each monthly anniversary of January 19, 2017, subject to the Reporting Person's continued employment or service relationship with the Issuer on each such vesting date.

/s/ Elizabeth Grammer,

01/23/2017 Attorney-in-Fact for Mark

**Kaufmann** 

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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.