

**FORM 4****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).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

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>Florence Anthony A. Jr.</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>5425 WISCONSIN AVENUE</u> <u>SUITE 800</u>  (Street) <u>CHEVY CHASE MD</u> <u>20815</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ARDELYX, INC. [ ARDX ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>07/18/2016</u>	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

**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)	Price			
Common Stock	07/18/2016		P <sup>(1)</sup>		763,651	A	\$8.73	2,665,520	I	See Note 2 <sup>(2)</sup>
Common Stock	07/18/2016		P <sup>(1)</sup>		763,650	A	\$8.73	2,665,519	I	See Note 3 <sup>(3)</sup>

**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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (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: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
							Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					
					Code	V	(A)	(D)	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			

**Explanation of Responses:**

1. Acquired from the issuer pursuant to a Securities Purchase Agreement dated July 14, 2016, with a closing date of July 18, 2016.
2. The Reporting Person is a manager of NEA 15 GP, LLC, ("NEA 15 GP") which is the sole general partner of NEA Partners 15, L.P. ("NEA Partners 15"). NEA Partners 15 is the sole general partner of New Enterprise Associates 15, L. P. ("NEA 15"), the direct beneficial owner of the securities. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership within the meaning of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise of such portion of the securities held by NEA 15 in which the Reporting Person has no pecuniary interest.
3. The Reporting Person is a manager of NEA 15 GP which is the sole general partner of NEA Partners 15-OF, L.P. ("NEA Partners 15-OF"). NEA Partners 15-OF is the sole general partner of NEA 15 Opportunity Fund, L. P. ("NEA Opportunity 15"), the direct beneficial owner of the securities. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership within the meaning of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise of such portion of the securities held by NEA Opportunity 15 in which the Reporting Person has no pecuniary interest.

**Remarks:**

/s/ Sasha Keough, attorney-in-fact 07/20/2016

\*\* 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.