CELANO ED Form 4

December 17, 2010

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

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, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

CELANO ED

(City)

(First) (Last)

(Middle)

2115 GAMBLE ROAD

(Street)

(State)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

ASTA FUNDING INC [ASFI]

(Month/Day/Year) 12/15/2010

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

OMB

Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

6. Ownership

Form: Direct

(Instr. 4)

(D) or Indirect Beneficial

Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ 07076

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3)

(Month/Day/Year)

(Zip)

Code

4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or (Instr. 8)

Code V Amount (D) Price

Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A)

or

Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)

5. Amount of

Securities

Beneficially

(Instr. 3 and 4)

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

7. Nature of

Ownership

(Instr. 4)

Indirect

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Conversion Security or Exercise (Instr. 3) Price of

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

5. Number of 4. TransactionDerivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) Acquired (A)

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

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Derivative or Disposed of Security (D) (Instr. 3, 4,

and 5)

Code V (A) (D) Date Expiration Title Exercisable Date

or Number of Shares

Amount

Stock

Option (right to \$7.63 12/15/2010 A 30,000 (1) 12/15/2020 Common Stock 30,000

buy)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

CELANO ED
2115 GAMBLE ROAD X
SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ 07076

Signatures

/s/ Ed Celano 12/16/2010

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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) These stock options have the following vesting schedule: 10,000 stock options vest on December 15, 2010, 10,000 stock options vest on December 15, 2011 and 10,000 stock options vest on December 15, 2012.

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

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