FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| l | OMB APPRO                | DVAL      |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| l | OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |
| l | Estimated average burden |           |  |  |  |  |  |
| l | 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*  HANCE JAMES H JR |   |  |   |   |  | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ACUITY BRANDS INC [ AYI ] |  |                               |                        |                  |   |   |  |           |   |  | p of Reportin<br>blicable)<br>ctor  |  | to Issuer<br>9% Owner                     |  |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|---|--|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|---|---|--|-----------|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O ACUITY BRANDS, INC.            |   |  |   | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/01/2018 |  |   |  |                               |                        |                  |   |   |  |           | Office  | er (give title<br>v)                       |   | Other (specify below)                                |   |  |
| 1170 PEACHTREE STREET NE, SUITE 2300                       |   |  |   |   | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) |   |  |                               |                        |                  |   |   |  |           | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) |  |   |  |   |  |
| (Street) ATLANT  | A GA  | A 3  | 30309                                       |   |  |   |  |                               |                        |                  |   |   |  |           | X   |  | n filed by One<br>n filed by Mor<br>on  |  |   |  |
| (City)   | (St   | ate) (                                     | Zip)  |   |  |   |  |                               |                        |                  |   |   |  |           |   |  |   |  |   |  |
|  |   | Tabl                                       | e I - No                                    | n-Deriv   | ative  | Sec   | curitie  | s Ac                          | quirec                 | l, Dis           | posed o                                 | f, or   | Ben  | efici     | ally (  | Owne                                       | ed  |  |   |  |
| Date   |   |  |   | 2. Transad<br>Date<br>(Month/Da                             | ay/Year) if a  |   | A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>f any<br>Month/Day/Year) |                               |                        |                  | ies Acquired (A)<br>Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 |   |  | and 5) So |   | ount of<br>ities<br>icially<br>d Following | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4)                               | ct of Indirect                                       |   |  |
| Title of Security (I     Common Stock                      |   |  |   |   |  |   |  |                               | v                      | Amount           | (A<br>(D                                | ) or<br>)   | Price  |           | Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)              |  |   | (11311.4)  |   |  |
| Common Stock (   |   |  |   | 02/01/  | /2018  |   |  |                               | A                      |                  | 192(1)                                  |   | A  | A \$163.4 |   | .42 10,168                                 |   | D  |   |  |
|  |   | Та   |   |   |  |   |  |                               |                        |                  | osed of,<br>onvertib                    |   |  |           | у Ои  | ned  |   |  |   |  |
| 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. Deem<br>Execution<br>if any<br>(Month/D | n Date,<br>ay/Year)   | 4.<br>Transa<br>Code (I<br>8)                            |   | of   | r<br>r<br>osed<br>)<br>: 3, 4 | 6. Date Expirat (Month | ion Da<br>/Day/Y |   | 7. Titl<br>Amou<br>Secu<br>Unde<br>Deriv<br>Secu<br>and 4 | unt of rities rlying ative rity (Irr.)  Am or Num of |           | 8. Pri<br>Deriv<br>Secu<br>(Instr                           | ative<br>rity                              | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | Owners<br>Form:<br>Direct (<br>or Indir<br>(I) (Inst | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>ect (Instr. 4) |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

1. The shares being reported result from a grant of shares pursuant to the 2011 Acuity Brands, Inc. Nonemployee Director Compensation Plan (Effective as of December 1, 2011, as amended effective December 1, 2012).

## Remarks:

<u>/s/ Jill A. Gilmer under Power</u> of Attorney for James H. 02/01/2018 Hance, Jr.

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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.