FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPROVAL             |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 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

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*  DUNBAR GEORGE W JR  (Last) (First) (Middle)  C/O CAPRICOR THERAPEUTICS, INC.  10865 ROAD TO THE CURE, SUITE 150 |   |  |   |                                 |                                    | Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol     CAPRICOR THERAPEUTICS, INC. [ CAPR ]      Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)     01/03/2023  4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) |  |                    |   |  |   |   | Relationship of Reporting Person(s)     (Check all applicable) |  |   | wner<br>specify                       |
|---|---|--|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|--------------------|---|--|---|---|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| (Street) SAN DIEGO (City)   | CA<br>(State  |  | 2121<br>Zip)  | _                               |                                    |   |  |                    |   |  |   |   | Form filed   | d by More th   | nan One Reporti                                       | ng Person                             |
|   |   | Т  | able I - Non  | -Deriva                         | tive S                             | ecuritie  | s Aca  | uired. D           | )isp  | osed of  | f. or Benef   | cially Ow   | ned  |  |   |                                       |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Tran. Date   |   |  |   | 2. Transac<br>Date<br>Month/Day | saction 2A. Deemed Execution Date, |   | 3. Transaction Code (Instr.  4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3,                       |                    |   | 5. Amount<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Following | y Owned Reported  | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct (D)<br>or Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership                     |  |   |                                       |
|   |   |  |   |                                 |                                    |   | Code   | v                  | Amount  | Amount (A) or (D)                                    |   | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)                                   |  |  | (Instr. 4)  |                                       |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)              |   |  |   |                                 |                                    |   |  |                    |   |  |   |   |  |  |   |                                       |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr.<br>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 Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Yea | Code                            | Transaction Code (Instr.           |   | 5. Number of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed of<br>(D) (Instr. 3, 4<br>and 5) |                    | 6. Date Exercisable an<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |  | 7. Title and Amount o<br>Securities Underlying<br>Derivative Security (II<br>3 and 4) |   | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)            | derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficial<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported | Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|   |   |  |   | Code                            | v                                  | (A)   | (D)  | Date<br>Exercisabl |   | xpiration<br>ate                                     | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of Shares                               |  | Transaction<br>(Instr. 4)  | n(s)  |                                       |
| Stock Option<br>(Right to Buy)  | \$3.85  | 01/03/2023                                 |   | A                               |                                    | 37,770  |  | (1)                | 01  | 1/03/2033  | Common<br>Stock   | 37,770  | \$0  | 37,770   | D   |                                       |
| Stock Option<br>(Right to Buy)  | \$3.85  | 01/03/2023                                 |   | A                               | Τ                                  | 8,310   |  | (2)                | 0   | 1/03/2033  | Common<br>Stock   | 8,310   | \$0  | 8,310  | D   |                                       |
| Stock Option<br>(Right to Buy)  | \$3.85  | 01/03/2023                                 |   | А                               |                                    | 19,000  |  | (3)                | 0   | 1/03/2033  | Common<br>Stock   | 19,000  | \$0  | 19,000   | D   |                                       |

## **Explanation of Responses**

- 1. The shares vest 1/12th of the first day of each month, commencing February 1, 2023, with the last month vesting on December 31, 2023, until the stock option becomes fully vested and exercisable. The award pertains to annual board service. The option is subject to early exercise and, therefore, all or any part of the option can be exercised at any time. If the reporting person elects to take advantage of the early exercise feature and purchase shares prior to the vesting of such shares, the shares will be deemed restricted stock and will be subject to a repurchase option in favor of the Issuer if the reporting person's service to the Issuer terminates prior to vesting.
- 2. The shares of the award are fully vested and exercisable as of January 3, 2023, the date of the grant. The award pertains to annual board committee service.
- 3. The shares of the award are fully vested and exercisable as of January 3, 2023, the date of the grant. The award pertains to annual board service.

/s/ Linda Marban, Attorney-in-Fact 01/05/2023

\*\* 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.