

| OMB APPROVAL                                 |           |
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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

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 *<br><u>SCHAFFER GREGORY W</u><br><br>(Last) (First) (Middle)<br><br><u>C/O NILE THERAPEUTICS, INC.</u><br><u>115 SANSOME STREET, SUITE #310</u><br><br>(Street)<br><u>SAN FRANCISCO CA 94104</u><br><br>(City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br><u>Nile Therapeutics, Inc. [ NLTX ]</u> | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner<br>Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) |
|   | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br><u>12/23/2008</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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|------------|-------|---|--|--|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V | Amount  | (A) or (D) | Price |   |  |  |

**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) |       |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|-----|--|-----------------|---|--|--|---|--|-------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V | (A)  | (D) | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date |   |  |  |   |  | Title |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)  | \$0.93   | 12/23/2008                           |  | A                              |   | 35,000   |     | (I)  | 12/22/2018      | Common Stock  | 35,000                                     | \$0.00   | 35,000  | D  |       |

**Explanation of Responses:**

1. 100% of the shares subject to the option shall vest and become exercisable on January 1, 2010.

/s/ Daron Evans, Attorney-in-Fact 12/23/2008  
for Gregory W. Schaffer

\*\* 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.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby authorizes Peter M. Strumph, Daron Evans, and David M. Tanen of Nile Therapeutics, Inc. ("Nile"), to execute for and on behalf of the undersigned, in the undersigned's capacity as a Section 16 reporting person of Nile, Forms 3, 4 and 5, and any amendments thereto, and cause such form(s) to be filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and The NASDAQ Stock Market. The undersigned hereby grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary, or proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do personally present, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that each such attorney-in-fact, or such attorney's-in-fact substitute or substitutes, shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorneys-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, are not assuming, nor is Nile assuming, any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended or the rules promulgated thereunder.

This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 3, 4 and 5 with respect to the undersigned's holdings of, and transactions in, securities issued by Nile, unless earlier revoked by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to the foregoing attorneys-in-fact.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 29th day of May, 2008.

/s/ Gregory W. Schafer

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Gregory W. Schafer