

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0287
Estimated average burden hours per response:	0.5

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Handel Joel M</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>THELEN REID BROWN RAYSMAN &amp; STEINER LP</u> <u>900 THIRD AVENUE</u>  (Street) <u>NEW YORK NY 10022</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>CARROLS RESTAURANT GROUP, INC.</u> [ TAST ]  3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>12/14/2006</u>  4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  X Director 10% Owner  Officer (give title below) 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 Person
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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, \$.01 par value per share	12/14/2006		A		6,700	A <sup>(1)</sup>	\$0 <sup>(1)</sup>	6,700	D	

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)		11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
					Code	V	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	

Explanation of Responses:

1. The Shares were granted to the Reporting Person pursuant to the Issuer's 2006 Stock Incentive Plan and subject to restrictions on transfer. The stock award reported herein shall vest and become exercisable as follows: (i) one-fifth (1/5) of the Shares reported herein shall vest on December 13, 2007; (ii) an additional one-fifth (1/5) of the Shares reported herein shall vest (and the restrictions shall lapse) on each of December 13, 2008, December 13, 2009, December 13, 2010, December 13, 2011, provided that the Reporting Person has continuously remained a director of the Issuer. Any unvested shares underlying the stock award reported herein will be immediately forfeited upon the Reporting Person ceasing to be a director. The stock award reported herein is not transferable unless vested.

/s/ Joel M. Handel 12/14/2006

\*\* 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.