

OMB APPROVAL	
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**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

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * <u>Smith Rachel</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>C/O CAPRICOR THERAPEUTICS, INC.</u> <u>8840 WILSHIRE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR</u>  (Street) <u>BEVERLY HILLS CA</u> <u>90211</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>CAPRICOR THERAPEUTICS, INC. [ CAPR ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) X <u>Vice President of R&amp;D</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>12/22/2017</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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	12/22/2017 <sup>(1)</sup>		M		20,748	A	\$0.16	20,748	D	
Common Stock	12/22/2017		F		2,244 <sup>(2)</sup>	D	\$1.48	18,504	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)	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
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$0.16	12/22/2017		M			20,748	01/01/2008	01/01/2018	Common Stock	20,748	\$0	0	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

1. On December 22, 2017, the Reporting Person exercised, via cashless exercise, stock options for 20,748 shares of Common Stock. The exercise price was \$0.16 per share and the exercise was subject to the terms and conditions of a Stock Option Award which was granted on January 1, 2008 under the Company's 2006 Stock Option Plan.

2. Reflects 2,244 shares withheld by the Issuer at the market price of \$1.48 per share to fund the cashless exercise of 20,748 options.

/s/ Linda Marban, as Attorney-in-Fact 01/04/2018

\*\* 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.

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