

OMB APPROVAL	
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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* <u>Kennedy Eugene P.</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O NEWLINK GENETICS CORPORATION 2503 SOUTH LOOP DR., SUITE 5100  (Street) AMES IA 50010  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>NEWLINK GENETICS CORP [ (NLNK) ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>Chief Medical Officer</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>01/04/2018</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	01/04/2018		F		409 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	\$10.06	13,977 <sup>(2)(3)(4)(5)</sup>	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)		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)					

**Explanation of Responses:**

- Represents shares of Common Stock withheld by the Issuer in satisfaction of its tax withholding obligation with respect to the vesting of 1,105 previously reported restricted stock units ("RSUs") granted to the Reporting Person.
- Includes 500 RSUs previously reported as holdings of the Reporting Person granted under the Issuer's 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Plan"). The RSUs will vest, and shares will be delivered to the Reporting Person in a series of two successive installments with the next installment occurring on January 20, 2018, provided in each case that the Reporting Person's continuous service to the Issuer has not been terminated as defined in or as determined under the Plan.
- Includes 2,500 RSUs previously reported as holdings of the Reporting Person granted under the Plan. The RSUs will vest, and shares will be delivered to the Reporting Person in a series of two successive annual installments with the next installment occurring on June 23, 2018, provided in each case that the Reporting Person's continuous service to the Issuer has not been terminated as defined in or as determined under the Plan.
- Includes 2,209 RSUs previously reported as holdings of the Reporting Person granted under the Plan. The RSUs will vest, and shares will be delivered to the Reporting Person in a series of two successive annual installments with the next installment occurring on January 4, 2019, provided in each case that the Reporting Person's continuous service to the Issuer has not been terminated as defined in or as determined under the Plan.
- Includes 309 shares acquired under the NewLink Genetics Corporation 2010 Employee Stock Purchase Plan on December 31, 2017.

**Remarks:**

/s/ Ryan Trytten, attorney-in-fact      01/05/2018

\*\* 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.

**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.**