

FINNEY ELISHA W

Form 4

May 16, 2012

**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 OF  
SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,  
Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section  
30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
FINNEY ELISHA W

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
THORATEC CORP [THOR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
05/14/2012

☒ Director ☐ 10% Owner  
☐ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify below)

PLEASANTON, CA 94588

4. If Amendment, Date Original  
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
☒ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
☐ Form filed by More than One Reporting  
Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A)<br>or Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Ownership<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |                                                    |  |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--|
| Common<br>Stock                       | 05/14/2012 <sup>(1)</sup>               |                                                             | S                                    | 625                                                                     | D                                                                                                                  | \$<br>32.6152<br><sup>(2)</sup>                                         | 20,842                                                                         | D                                                  |  |
| Common<br>Stock                       |                                         |                                                             |                                      |                                                                         |                                                                                                                    | 1,000                                                                   | I                                                                              | By<br>Separate<br>Property<br>Trust <sup>(3)</sup> |  |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

**Persons who respond to the collection of  
information contained in this form are not  
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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

number.

**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<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3,<br>4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Underlying<br>Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Nu<br>Deriv<br>Secur<br>Bene<br>Own<br>Follo<br>Repor<br>Trans<br>(Instr |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                     |                                                                    |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V (A) (D)                                                                                                          | Date<br>Exercisable                                            | Expiration<br>Date                                                        | Title                                               | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares                                      |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                   | Relationships                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
|                                                                  | Director    10% Owner    Officer    Other |
| FINNEY ELISHA W<br>6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE<br>PLEASANTON, CA 94588 | X                                         |

## Signatures

/s/David A. Lehman,  
Attorney-In-Fact

05/16/2012

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* 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).

(1) Shares of Common Stock sold pursuant to a Sales Plan established by the Reporting Person on September 13, 2011, which Sales Plan is intended to comply with the requirements of Rule 10b5-1(c)(1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

(2) This transaction was executed in multiple trades in prices ranging from \$32.38 to \$32.82. The price reported above reflects the weighted average sale price. The Reporting Person hereby undertakes to provide upon request to the SEC staff, the Issuer, or a stockholder of the Issuer, information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transaction was effected.

(3) Elisha Finney as Trustee of the Robert D. Finney and Elisha W. Finney 2000 Revocable Trust.

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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