Gracias Antonio J. Form 4 March 13, 2012

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB

Check this box if no longer subject to

3235-0287 Number: January 31, Expires:

2005

OMB APPROVAL

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

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may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Gracias Antonio J.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Symbol

TESLA MOTORS INC [TSLA]

(Check all applicable)

(Last)

(First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

_X__ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify

C/O VALOR EQUITY PARTNERS, 03/09/2012 L.P., 200 S. MICHIGAN AVE

SUITE 1020

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

CHICAGO, IL 6060	4
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(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	ole I - Non-	Derivative S	Securi	ties Acquir	red, Disposed of,	or Beneficiall	y 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. Securitie for Dispose (Instr. 3, 4	d of (E))	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)
Common			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price \$ 35.03	(IIIsu: 3 and 4)		
Stock	03/09/2012		S(1)	42,515	D	(2)	1,780,470	I	By VEP I
Common Stock	03/12/2012		S <u>(1)</u>	215,042	D	\$ 35.664 (3)	1,565,428	I	By VEP I
Common Stock	03/12/2012		S <u>(1)</u>	57,948	D	\$ 36.107 (4)	1,507,480	I	By VEP I
Common Stock							46,626	D	

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Common Stock	164,611	I	by AJG Growth Fund (5)
Common Stock	89,678	I	by VEP II <u>(6)</u>

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

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SEC 1474

(9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		4. Transacti	5. orNumber	6. Date Exerc Expiration D		7. Title an Amount o		
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/		Underlyin	g Securit	y Secu
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	`	,	Securities	C	•
	Derivative		, ,	,	Securities			(Instr. 3 ar	nd 4)	Own
	Security				Acquired					Follo
	•				(A) or					Repo
					Disposed					Trans
					of (D)					(Instr
					(Instr. 3,					
					4, and 5)					
								Am	ount	
						5	.	or		
						Date	Expiration		mber	
						Exercisable	Date	of		
				Code V	(A) (D)			Sha	ares	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			

Gracias Antonio J. C/O VALOR EQUITY PARTNERS, L.P. 200 S. MICHIGAN AVE SUITE 1020 CHICAGO, IL 60604

X

Signatures

/s/ Antonio J.

Gracias 03/13/2012

**Signature of Date

Reporting Person

Reporting Owners 2

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).
 - The sales reported on this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by Valor Equity Partners L.P. ("VEP I") on November 11, 2011. VEP I is advised directly and/or indirectly by Valor Management Corp. which may be deemed to be the
- (1) beneficial owner of the shares held by VEP I. The reporting person is a shareholder and director of Valor Management Corp, and may be deemed the beneficial owner of the shares held by VEP I. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of any shares held directly by VEP I, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
- The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$35.00 to \$35.18, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide Tesla Motors, Inc., any security holder of Tesla Motors, Inc. or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range set forth in this footnote.
- The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$35.00.to \$35.99, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide Tesla Motors, Inc., any security holder of Tesla Motors, Inc. or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range set forth in this footnote.
- The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$36.00 to \$36.28, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide Tesla Motors, Inc., any security holder of Tesla Motors, Inc. or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range set forth in this footnote.
- (5) AJG Growth Fund LLC is the record and direct beneficial owner of 164,611 shares, of which the reporting person is a manager of AJG Growth Fund LLC and may be deemed to have an indirect pecuniary interest in the shares owned by AJG Growth Fund LLC.
- Valor Equity Management II, L.P. ("VEP II") is the record and direct beneficial owner of a total of 89,678 shares. The reporting person is a shareholder and director of Valor Management Corp. general partner of VEP II and may be deemed to have an indirect pecuniary interest in the shares owned by VEP II.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.