FORM 4

# **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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).

Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan for the purchase or sale of equity securities of the issuer that is intended to satisfy the

### 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

affirmative defens 10b5-1(c). See Ins	e conditions of Rule struction 10.							
1. Name and Address Payne Fletche	ss of Reporting Perso	n*	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Aptose Biosciences Inc. [ APTO ]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner				
I		, ,	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/05/2024	X Officer (give title Other (specify below) Sr VP and CFO				
251 CONSUMERS ROAD, SUITE 1105			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)  6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applic  X Form filed by One Reporting Person					
(Street)				Form filed by More than One Reporting Person				
TORONTO	A6	M2J 4R3		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				
(City)	(State)	(Zip)						

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	Date (Month/Day/Year)	l	Transaction Code (Instr.		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership
			Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(Instr. 4)

# 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. Transac Code (In 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)		Derivative	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	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	Amount or Number of Shares		Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)		
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$2	02/05/2024		A		55,000		(1)	02/05/2034	Common Shares	55,000	\$0	55,000	D	

#### **Explanation of Responses:**

1. 50% of the options vest on February 5, 2025, and the remaining options vesting as follows: 1/3 on February 5, 2026; 1/3 on February 5, 2027; and 1/3 on February 5, 2028.

/s/ Fletcher Payne

02/07/2024

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

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.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

<sup>\*\*</sup> Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).