

LEBDA DOUGLAS R  
Form 4  
February 21, 2018

**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).

**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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
LEBDA DOUGLAS R

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
11115 RUSHMORE DR.  
  
(Street)

CHARLOTTE, NC 28277

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
LendingTree, Inc. [TREE]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
02/16/2018

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Chairman & CEO

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

**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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Code V Amount (D) Price   |  |   |

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

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(9-02)

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of Derivative Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|

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| (Instr. 3)                                  | Price of Derivative Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | Code | V | (A)    | (D) | Date Exercisable    | Expiration Date | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares |
|---|------------------------------|------------------|------------|---|------|---|--------|-----|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Performance based nonqualified stock option | \$ 378.95                    | 02/16/2018       |            | A   |      |   | 21,982 |     | <u>(1)(2)(3)(4)</u> | 02/16/2028      | Common Stock | 21,982                     |
| Restricted Stock Units                      | \$ 0                         | 02/16/2018       |            | A   |      |   | 9,896  |     | <u>(5)</u>          | <u>(5)</u>      | Common Stock | 9,896                      |
| Stock Option                                | \$ 378.95                    | 02/16/2018       |            | A   |      |   | 396    |     | <u>(6)</u>          | 02/16/2028      | Common Stock | 396                        |
| Restricted Stock Units                      | \$ 0                         | 02/16/2018       |            | A   |      |   | 198    |     | <u>(7)</u>          | <u>(7)</u>      | Common Stock | 198                        |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                               | Relationships |           |                |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|----------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer        | Other |
| LEBDA DOUGLAS R<br>11115 RUSHMORE DR.<br>CHARLOTTE, NC 28277 | X             | X         | Chairman & CEO |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Katharine F. Pierce as Attorney-in-Fact for Douglas R. Lebda 02/21/2018

\_\_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) The performance based nonqualified stock option was made in accordance with the reporting person's employment agreement with the Company and has both time and performance based vesting conditions. The "Target Shares" for this option grant is 13,163 shares. Shares will become "Performance Vested" if the volume weighted average closing per share price of the Company's common stock ("VWAP") in any fiscal quarter (measured during the final 30 trading days in each fiscal quarter) commencing with the second fiscal quarter of 2018 through the first fiscal quarter of 2022 exceeds \$378.95 (the "Base Price") based on the following schedule:

(2) (Continued from F1): : (i) if VWAP Increase over Base Price is less than 41%, 0% of Target Shares will Performance Vest; (ii) if VWAP Increase over Base Price is 41%, 33% of Target Shares (i.e., 4,344 shares) will Performance Vest; (iii) if VWAP Increase over Base Price is 61%, 67% of Target Shares (i.e., 8,819 shares) will Performance Vest; (iv) if VWAP Increase over Base Price is 81%, 100% of Target Shares (i.e., 13,613 shares) will Performance Vest; (v) if VWAP Increase over Base Price is 101%, 133% of Target Shares (i.e., 17,507 shares) will Performance Vest; and (vi) if VWAP Increase over Base Price is 121% or greater, 167% of Target Shares (i.e., 21,982 shares) will Performance Vest. Linear interpolation of vesting applies if the VWAP increases over Base Price is between 41% and 121%.

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- (continued from F2): The maximum number of shares that may Performance Vest is 21,982 shares. Shares which are Performance Vested will become vested and exercisable on February 16, 2022 if the reporting person's service has not previously terminated. Shares that do not become Performance Vested shall be forfeited without consideration. Similarly, if before February 16, 2022 the reporting person's service is terminated for cause or he resigns without good reason, then any then unvested portion of the Performance Option shall be forfeited without consideration. After termination of the reporting person's service, any then vested portion of the Performance Option shall generally remain exercisable until the earlier of (i) the expiration of the 12-month period following such termination of service, (ii) the date of a change of control of the Company if the Performance Option is not being assumed, replaced, substituted for or otherwise continued after the change of control,
- (3) (continued from F3): or (iii) February 16, 2028. If there is a change of control of the Company, or if the reporting person's service is terminated either due to his death or disability, or by us without cause, or by the reporting person for good reason, then the performance based nonqualified stock option can become partially or fully vested on an accelerated basis based on the measurement of the stock price based performance goals under the applicable circumstances and the deemed satisfaction of time based vesting conditions.
- (4) This award of restricted stock units was made in accordance with the reporting person's employment agreement with the Company. All units will vest in a single installment on the fourth anniversary of the date of grant subject to continuing service.
- (5) These options vest in three equal annual installments beginning on February 16, 2019 subject to continuing service.
- (6) These restricted stock units vest in three equal annual installments beginning on February 16, 2019 subject to continuing service.
- (7) The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares, and this report shall not be deemed an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of the shares for purposes of Section 16 or any other purpose.
- (8)

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.