| FORM 4 | 4 |
|--------|---|
|--------|---|

| Check this box if no  |
|-----------------------|
| longer subject to     |
| Section 16. Form 4 or |
| Form 5 obligations    |
| may continue. See     |
| Instruction 1(b).     |

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

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

02)

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| (Print or Type Respons              | es)  |                          |  |                    |   |                           |   |       |  |                                  |   |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------|---|---------------------------|---|-------|--|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Name and Address of MCGRATH JOHN | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol<br>Atara Biotherapeutics, Inc. [ATRA] |                          |  |                    |   |                           | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br>(Check all applicable)<br>Director 10% Owner  |       |  |                                  |   |
| 611 GATEWAY B                       | (First)<br>OULEVARI  | (Middle)<br>D, SUITE 900 | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br>12/29/2017                   |                    |   |                           |   |       | X  Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)    EVP & Chief Financial Officer                  |                                  |   |
| SOUTH SAN FRA                       | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)                                     |                          |  |                    |   |                           | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)<br>_X_Form filed by One Reporting Person<br>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 Security<br>(Instr. 3)   |  | Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Execution Date, if   | Code<br>(Instr. 8) |   | (A) or Disposed of<br>(D) |   | of    | 5. Amount of Securities<br>Beneficially Owned Following<br>Reported Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | Form:                            | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership |
|                                     |  |                          |  | Code               | v | Amount                    | (A) or<br>(D)   | Price |  | or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | (Instr. 4)  |
| Common Stock                        |  | 12/29/2017               |  | S <mark>(1)</mark> |   | 32,000                    | D   | \$ 20 | 96,654   | D                                |   |

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information SEC 1474 (9contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

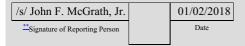
#### Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

|             | ( <i>e.g.</i> , puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |                  |                    |             |       |           |              |            |        |         |             |                |             |             |
|-------------|---|------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------|-----------|--------------|------------|--------|---------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Title of | 2.  | 3. Transaction   | 3A. Deemed         | 4.          | 5. N  | umber     | 6. Date Exer | rcisable   | 7. Tit | tle and | 8. Price of | 9. Number of   | 10.         | 11. Nature  |
| Derivative  | Conversion  | Date             | Execution Date, if | Transaction | of    |           | and Expirati | on Date    | Amo    | unt of  | Derivative  | Derivative     | Ownership   | of Indirect |
| Security    | or Exercise   | (Month/Day/Year) | any                | Code        | Deri  | vative    | (Month/Day   | /Year)     | Unde   | rlying  | Security    | Securities     | Form of     | Beneficial  |
| (Instr. 3)  | Price of  |                  | (Month/Day/Year)   | (Instr. 8)  | Secu  | rities    |              |            | Secu   | rities  | (Instr. 5)  | Beneficially   | Derivative  | Ownership   |
|             | Derivative  |                  |                    |             | Acq   | uired     |              |            | (Instr | : 3 and |             | Owned          | Security:   | (Instr. 4)  |
|             | Security  |                  |                    |             | (A) ( | or        |              |            | 4)     |         |             | 0              | Direct (D)  |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |             | Disp  |           |              |            |        |         |             | *              | or Indirect |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |             | of (I | ))        |              |            |        |         |             | Transaction(s) | (I)         |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |             | (Inst |           |              |            |        |         |             | (Instr. 4)     | (Instr. 4)  |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |             | 4, an | 4, and 5) |              |            |        |         |             |                |             |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |             |       |           |              |            |        | Amount  |             |                |             |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |             |       |           | Date         | Expiration |        | or      |             |                |             |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |             |       |           | Exercisable  |            | Title  | Number  |             |                |             |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |             |       |           | Excicisable  | Date       |        | of      |             |                |             |             |
|             |   |                  |                    | Code V      | (A)   | (D)       |              |            |        | Shares  |             |                |             |             |

## **Reporting Owners**

|   | Relationships |           |                               |       |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                       | Other |  |  |  |  |  |
| MCGRATH JOHN<br>611 GATEWAY BOULEVARD<br>SUITE 900<br>SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94080 |               |           | EVP & Chief Financial Officer |       |  |  |  |  |  |

## Signatures



# **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) Transaction pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 Plan adopted July 6, 2016.

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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