FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* Raffin Thomas A.						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NEWLINK GENETICS CORP [(NLNK)]								5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)						
(Last)	<u> </u>					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/09/2013									X Director Officer (give title below)			10% Owner Other (specify below)		
2503 SOUTH LOOP DR., SUITE 5100						4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable					
(Street) AMES	` '		50010											ne) X		led by Mor	•	orting Persor One Repor		
(City)	(City) (State) (Zip)																			
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																				
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Date)						ear)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year		Transaction Dispose Code (Instr. 5)		Disposed	ties Acquir I Of (D) (Ins				s ally ollowing	Form	: Direct Indirect str. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
									Code V	, ,	Amount	(A) or (D)	r Price	- 1	Transact (Instr. 3 a	ion(s)			(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. Deemee Execution I if any (Month/Day	Date,	4. Transa Code (8)		of		6. Date Exercisal Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year		of Securities		ties ig e Security	De Se	Price of erivative ecurity nstr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s (Instr. 4)		10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Exp	piration te	Title	Amount or Number of Shares							
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$14.71	05/09/2013			A		12,000		(1)	05/0	08/2023	Common Stock	12,000		\$0	12,000	0	D		

Explanation of Responses:

1. Automatic grant to the Reporting Person of a nonstatutory stock option under the Issuer's 2010 Non-Employee Directors' Stock Award Plan (the "Plan"). One hundred percent (100%) of the shares shall vest on the earlier of (i) the first anniversary of the date of grant and (ii) the date of the first Annual Meeting following the date of grant, in each case subject to the Reporting Person's continuous service as of such date. The option expires ten years after the date of grant.

Remarks:

/s/ Gordon Link, by power of <u>attorney</u>

05/10/2013

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- * 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).

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.