FORM 4

UNITED ST

Washington, D.C. 20549

| ATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION |
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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 affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c)

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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* MUSA OSAMA M | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ASHLAND INC. [ASH] | | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner | | | | | ner |
|--|---|--|---|---------|---|--|---|--------|--------------------------------------|--------|---|------------|--|--|---|---|----------------------------|---|-----------|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 8145 BLAZER DRIVE | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/14/2024 | | | | | | | | Officer (give title Other (specify below) SVP and CTO | | | | | | |
| (Street) WILMINGTON DE 19808 (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | Line | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | |
| | | | le I - Nor | n-Deriv | ative | Se | curiti | ies Ac | <u> </u> | Dis | | | | | y Owned | t | | | |
| D. | | | | Date | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | Code (Instr. | | 4. Securities Acquired (A Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 5) | |) or 4 and | Securition Benefici | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | | Direct of Indirect Itr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) (D) | or P | rice | Transac (Instr. 3 | tion(s) | | | instr. 4) |
| Common Stock 11/14/ | | | | | 1/2024 | 2024 | | | M | | 2,031 | 1 A \$ | | 5 78.05 | 24,776 | | I | D | |
| Common Stock 11/14/ | | | | | 1/2024 | 2024 | | | F ⁽¹⁾ | | 696 D | |) [| \$78.05 | 24,080 | | I | D | |
| | | T | able II - | | | | | | | | osed of onverti | | | | Owned | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deeme Execution if any (Month/Da | Date, | Date, Transacti Code (Ins | | on of | | 6. Date E: Expiration (Month/D | n Date | Amount of | | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4) | Ownershi Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4 | | Beneficia Ownersh t (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | | Date Exercisal | | xpiration ate | Title | or Nui of | ount mber ares | | | | | |
| Restricted | (2) | 11/14/2024 | | | M | | | 2,031 | (3) | T | (3) | Common | 1 2, | 031 | \$0 | 4,066 ⁽⁴ | 4) | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Payment of a tax liability by withholding securities incident to the vesting of Restricted Stock Units acquired pursuant to Ashland's incentive plan as approved by the shareholders and exempt pursuant to Rule 16b-3.
- 2. Each Restricted Stock Unit (RSU) represents a right to receive one (1) share of Ashland common stock upon vesting.
- 3. Grant of Restricted Stock Units pursuant to Ashland's incentive plan as approved by the shareholders and exempt pursuant to Rule 16b-3. The shares in this grant vest in three equal installments beginning one year from the date of grant, provided that the Reporting Person remains in continuous employment with the issuer.
- 4. Balance includes additional Common Stock Units acquired in lieu of cash dividends.

/s/ Serena S. Kenost, Attorney-11/18/2024 in-fact for Osama M. Musa

** 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.