

ST MARY LAND & EXPLORATION CO  
 Form 4  
 July 02, 2008

**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 \*  
**BEST ANTHONY JAMES**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**ST MARY LAND & EXPLORATION CO [SM]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 1776 LINCOLN STREET, SUITE 700  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 06/30/2008

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

DENVER, CO 80203

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 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 (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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)		
			Code	V	Amount or Price				
Common Stock; \$.01 Par Value	06/30/2008		J <sup>(1)</sup>		647	A	\$ 32.8185	24,726	D

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

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**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. Transaction Code (Instr. 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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Amount or Number of Shares
Restricted Stock Units	(2)	07/01/2008		A	15,528	(2) (2)	Common Stock	15,528

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BEST ANTHONY JAMES 1776 LINCOLN STREET SUITE 700 DENVER, CO 80203	X		CEO & President	

## Signatures

Karin M. Writer  
(Attorney-In-Fact) 07/02/2008

\_\_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 reporting person purchased the shares of the issuer's common stock on June 30, 2008, through the issuer's Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
- (2) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of stock. This restricted stock unit grant vests in three equal annual installments beginning on December 15, 2008. The vested shares will be issued to the reporting person on the vesting dates, at which time all restrictions on the vested shares will lapse.

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.