

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104

Estimated average burden

hours per response: 0.5

INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>O'Neil Christian G.</u>	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) <u>04/24/2012</u>	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>KIRBY CORP [KEX]</u>	
		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director _____ 10% Owner _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below) _____ <u>VP - Human Resources</u>	5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)
(Last) (First) (Middle) <u>55 WAUGH DRIVE, SUITE 1000</u>			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
(Street) <u>HOUSTON TX 77007</u>			
(City) (State) (Zip)			

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock, par value \$.10 per share	9,049	D	
Common Stock, par value \$.10 per share	1,355	I	401(k) Stock

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	01/31/2014 ⁽¹⁾	01/31/2018	Common Stock	2,150	46.74	D	
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	02/06/2015 ⁽¹⁾	02/06/2019	Common Stock	4,731	66.72	D	

Explanation of Responses:

1. Option is exercisable 33% after one year, 67% after two years and 100% after three years from date of grant.

Remarks:

Exhibit List: Exhibit-Power of Attorney

G. Stephen Holcomb, Agent and Attorney-in-Fact05/04/2012

** 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 5 (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.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

The undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints each of J. H. Pyne, David W. Grzebinski and G. Stephen Holcomb, each with the authority to act alone, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorney-in-fact to:

1. execute on behalf of the undersigned in the undersigned's capacity as an officer and/or director of Kirby Corporation (the "Company"), Forms 3, 4 and 5 in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules thereunder;
2. take any and all actions on behalf of the undersigned that may be necessary or desirable to complete and execute any such Form 3, 4 or 5, complete and execute any amendment to such form and timely file such form with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any stock exchange or similar authority; and
3. take any other action of any kind in connection with the foregoing that, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required of, the undersigned, with the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney to be in such form and contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in his or her discretion.

The undersigned grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to take such actions as may be necessary or proper in the exercise of the authority herein granted, as fully as the undersigned could if acting personally, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact, or such attorney-in-fact's substitute or substitutes, shall lawfully do or cause to be done pursuant to this Power of Attorney. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorneys-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, are not assuming, nor is the Company assuming, any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 3, 4 and 5 with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in securities issued by the Company, unless earlier revoked by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to the attorneys-in-fact. The undersigned hereby revokes any previous powers of attorney granted by the undersigned relating to the same subject matter as this Power of Attorney.

Dated 5/1, 2012

/s/ Christian G. O'Neil

Signature

Christian G. O'Neil

Printed Name
