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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

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

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

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). See Instruction 10.

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * <u>Lord Phillippe</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>18655 NORTH CLARET DRIVE</u> <u>SUITE 400</u>  (Street) <u>SCOTTSDALE AZ 85255</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>Meritage Homes CORP [ MTH ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>Chief Executive Officer</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>02/18/2026</u>	
	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	

**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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
MTH Common Stock	02/18/2026		G		5,000 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	\$0	0	D	
MTH Common Stock	02/18/2026		G		5,000 <sup>(1)</sup>	A	\$0	221,320 <sup>(2)</sup>	I	Limited Partnership
MTH Common Stock	02/18/2026		S		5,000 <sup>(3)</sup>	D	\$80.07 <sup>(4)</sup>	216,320 <sup>(5)(6)</sup>	I	Limited Partnership
MTH Common Shares								107,254 <sup>(7)</sup>	D	

**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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 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	Expiration Date					

**Explanation of Responses:**

- Represents a gift from the direct holdings of Mr. Lord to a charitable foundation controlled by Mr. Lord.
- Balance includes 216,320 shares held by family limited partnerships controlled by Mr. Lord and 5,000 shares held by a charitable foundation controlled by Mr. Lord. Mr. Lord disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares held by the charitable foundation as he has no pecuniary interest in such shares.
- Represents the sale of shares by a charitable foundation controlled by Mr. Lord. Mr. Lord disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares held by the charitable foundation as he has no pecuniary interest in such shares.
- The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$80.05 to \$80.15, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to the Registrant, any security holder of the Registrant, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range set forth in this footnote.
- Balance reflects all other holdings, including restricted stock units that have previously vested.
- All shares are held by family limited partnerships controlled by Mr. Lord.
- Balance represents restricted stock units not vested.

**Remarks:**

/s/ Alison Sasser, attorney-in-fact 02/19/2026  
for Phillippe Lord

\*\* 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.