FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Washington, | D.C. 20549 |
|-------------|------------|
|-------------|------------|

| Check this box if no longer subject |
|-------------------------------------|
| Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 |
| bligations may continue. See |
| actruction 1(h) |

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: 3235-0287 | | | | | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | | | | |
| hours per response: | | | | | | | |

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>EARLY CREIGHTON K</u> | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Willdan Group, Inc. [WLDN] | | | | | | | | | | ck all app Direc | licable) tor | • | rson(s) to Is | vner |
|---|--|-------|---------|------------------------|--|---|--|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------|-----------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|------------|
| (Last) | (Fir | , | Middle) | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/21/2023 | | | | | | | | X | belov | , | | Other (s below) AND CF | |
| SUITE 300 | | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | 6. Ind Line) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | | |
| (Street) ANAHEIM CA 92806 | | | | | | | | | | | | | X | X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | |
| (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | | | Rule 10b5-1(c) Transaction Indication Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Table | I - No | n-Deriva | tive S | Secui | rities | Acq | uired, | Dis | posed of | , or E | Bene | ficiall | y Own | ed | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Da | | | | Exec ay/Year) if an | | Deemed ecution Date, ny onth/Day/Year) | | | | es Acquired (A Of (D) (Instr. 3, | | | | ties cially I Following | Forn (D) o | n: Direct or Indirect nstr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) (D) | or F | Price | | ted action(s) 3 and 4) | | | (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock 08/21 | | | | 08/21/ | 2023 | | | A | | 1,736(1) | A | 1 | \$0 60 | | 66,950 ⁽²⁾⁽³⁾ | | 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) | Derivative Conversion Date Execution Date, Gecurity or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any | | | | | 5. Nu of Deriv Secu Acqu (A) o Dispo of (D) (Instr and 5 | rities ired r osed) : 3, 4 | Expiration D. (Month/Day/ | | te | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Ins 3 and 4) | | Str. | Price of erivative ecurity estr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | у | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | | | Date Exercis | able | Expiration Date | or Number of Title Shares | | | | | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Represents performance-based restricted stock units previously granted to the Reporting Person by the Issuer on August 2, 2022. The performance conditions applicable to the award were determined to have been satisfied by the Issuer's Compensation Committee on August 21, 2023, resulting in the immediate vesting of the restricted stock units as to 1,736 shares of Common Stock.
- 2. Includes 22,800 shares of restricted stock that vest in three substantially equal installments on each of March 7, 2024, March 7, 2025 and March 7, 2026, subject to the Reporting Person's continued service to the Issuer through the applicable vesting date.
- 3. Includes 715 shares of Common Stock purchased under the Amended and Restated Willdan Group, Inc. 2006 Employee Stock Purchase Plan on June 30, 2023.

08/22/2023 /s/ Creighton K. Early

** 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.