

Edgar Filing: CARRIAGE SERVICES INC - Form SC 13G

CARRIAGE SERVICES INC  
Form SC 13G  
January 22, 2015

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities & Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. \_\_) \*

Carriage Services, Inc.  
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock  
(Title of Class of Securities)

143905107  
(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2014

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)
- Rule 13d-1(c)
- Rule 13d-1(d)

\* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes.)

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 control number.

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CUSIP No. 143905107

1. Names of Reporting Persons.

I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only).

Zazove Associates, LLC 36-3984373

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a) ( )

(b) ( )

3. SEC Use Only

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4. Citizenship or Place of Organization: Delaware

Number of  
Shares Bene-  
ficially by  
Owned by Each  
Reporting  
Person With:

5. Sole Voting Power: 1,147,807 (see item 4)

6. Shared Voting Power: 0

7. Sole Dispositive Power: 1,147,807 (see item 4)

8. Shared Dispositive Power: 0

9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person  
1,147,807 (see item 4)

10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain  
Shares ( )

11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9): 5.84%

12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions): IA

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CUSIP No. 143905107

1. Names of Reporting Persons.

I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only).

Zazove Associates, Inc. 36-3630548

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a) ( )

(b) ( )

3. SEC Use Only

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4. Citizenship or Place of Organization: Illinois

Number of  
Shares Bene-  
ficially by  
Owned by Each  
Reporting  
Person With:

5. Sole Voting Power: 1,147,807 (see item 4)

6. Shared Voting Power: 0

7. Sole Dispositive Power: 1,147,807 (see item 4)

8. Shared Dispositive Power: 0

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9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person  
1,147,807 (see item 4)

10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain  
Shares ( )

11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9): 5.84%

12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions): CO, HC

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CUSIP No. 143905107

1. Names of Reporting Persons.

I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only).

Gene T. Pretti

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See  
Instructions)

(a) ( )

(b) ( )

3. SEC Use Only

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization: United States

Number of 5. Sole Voting Power: 1,147,807 (see item 4)

Shares Bene- 6. Shared Voting Power: 0

ficially by 7. Sole Dispositive Power: 1,147,807 (see item 4)

Owned by Each 8. Shared Dispositive Power: 0

Reporting 9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person  
Person With: 1,147,807 (see item 4)

10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain  
Shares ( )

11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9): 5.84%

12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions): IN, HC

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Item 1.

(a) Name of Issuer

Carriage Services, Inc.  
(the "Company")

(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices

1900 St James Place, 4th Floor  
Houston, TX 77056

Item 2.

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(a) Name of Persons Filing

This Schedule 13G is being filed by Zazove Associates, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; Zazove Associates, Inc., an Illinois corporation and Gene T. Pretti (referred to collectively as the "Reporting Persons").

(b) Residence or business address

The principal address of the Reporting Persons is  
1001 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451

(c) Citizenship

Zazove Associates, LLC is organized under the laws of Delaware.  
Zazove Associates, Inc. is organized under the laws of Illinois.  
Gene T. Pretti is a citizen of the United States.

(d) Title of Class of Securities

Common stock

(e) CUSIP Number

143905107

Item 3. If this statement is filed pursuant to Sections 240.13d-1(b) or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:

- (a)  Broker or dealer registered under section 15 of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78o).
- (b)  Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15 U.S.C 78c).
- (c)  Insurance company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).
- (d)  Investment company registered under section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8).
- (e)  An investment adviser in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
- (f)  An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
- (g)  A parent holding company or control person in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);
- (h)  A savings associations as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);
- (i)  A church plan the is excluded from the definition of an investment company under section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company act of 1940 (15 U.S.C.)
- (j)  Group, in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

Item 4. Ownership

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number and percentage of the class of securities of the issuer identified in Item 1.

- (a) Amount beneficially owned:

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1,147,807 shares of common stock, which includes  
1,147,807 shares issuable upon the conversion of the  
Issuer's 2.75% convertible Notes Due 03-15-2021  
(the "Convertible Securities").

(b) Percent of class:

5.84%, calculated based on 19,649,034 shares of common stock  
outstanding, which number is calculated by adding (i)  
18,501,227 (the number of shares of common stock  
outstanding as reported on the Company's most recent  
Form 10-Q filed with the SEC) and (ii) 1,147,807  
(the number of shares of common stock deemed  
held under Rule 240.13d-3(d)(1) as a result of the beneficial  
ownership of the Convertible Securities).

(c) Number of shares as to which the person has:

(i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote: 1,147,807  
(ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 0

(iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition  
of: 1,147,807

(iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition  
of: 0

Instruction. For computations regarding securities which  
represents a right to acquire an underlying security see Section  
240.13d-3(d)(1).

### Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of  
the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial  
owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the  
following ( ).

Instruction: Dissolution of a group requires a response to  
this item.

### Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

If any other person is known to have the right to receive or the  
power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from  
the sale of, such securities, a statement to that effect should be  
included in response to this item and, if such interest relates to  
more than five percent of the class, such person should be  
identified. A listing of shareholders of an investment  
company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 or  
the beneficiaries of employee benefit plan, pension fund or  
endowment fund is not required.

Zazove Associates, LLC is registered as an investment advisor  
under Section 203 of the Investment Advisors Act of 1940  
(15 USC 80b-3) and has discretionary authority with regard to  
certain accounts that hold the Convertible Securities.  
No single account has a more than 5% interest of any class  
of the Issuer's equity securities.

### Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company

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Not applicable.

If a parent holding company has filed this schedule, pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b)(ii)(G), so indicate under Item 3(g) and attach an exhibit stating the identity and the Item 3 classification of the relevant subsidiary. If a parent holding company has filed this schedule pursuant to Rule 13d-1(c) or Rule 13d-1(d), attach an exhibit stating the identity of each member of the group.

### Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group

Not applicable.

If a group has filed this schedule pursuant to Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J), so indicate under Item 3(j) and attach an exhibit stating the identity and Item 3 classification of each member of the group. If a group has filed this schedule pursuant to Section 240.13d-1(c) or Section 240.13d-1(d), attached an exhibit stating the identity of each member of the group.

### Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not applicable.

Notice of dissolution of a group may be furnished as an exhibit stating the date of the dissolution and that all further filings with respect to transactions in the security reported on will be filed, if required, by members of the group, in their individual capacity. See Item 5.

### Item 10. Certifications

#### Item 10 (a)

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

Item 10 (b) Not Applicable.

#### SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

January 22, 2015  
Date

Zazove Associates, LLC  
/s/ Steven M. Kleiman  
Signature  
Steven M. Kleiman, COO

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Name/Title

Zazove Associates, Inc.

/s/ Steven M. Kleiman

Signature

Steven M. Kleiman, CFO

Name/Title

/s/ Gene T. Pretti