FORM 3

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE **COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | 3235- 0104 | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | |
| hours per | 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>Toler William Douglas</u> | | 2. Date o Requiring (Month/D 12/09/20 | Statement ay/Year) | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol HYDROFARM HOLDINGS GROUP, INC. [HYFM] | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---|---|---|------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|
| (Last) (First 202 SAN MATE | , , , | | | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director 10% Owner | | | If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) Individual or Joint/Group Filing | | | |
| (Street) BONITA SPRINGS FL (City) (Sta | | | | X Officer (give title below) CEO and Chairm | Other (s below) an of the Bo | . , | | eck Applicable Form filed b Person | Line) by One Reporting by More than One | |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | | | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Inst 4) | r. Form: D (D) or In | | | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) | | | |
| Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ | | | 1,448,205(1)(2) | D | D | | | | | |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ex | | 2. Date Exerc Expiration Day/\ (Month/Day/\ | ate | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of | | se Form: | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. | |
| | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | Derivative | | Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 5) | |
| Series A Convert Stock | tible Preferred | (3) | (3) | Common Stock | 423,757 ⁽²⁾ | (3) | | D | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. On December 19, 2019, Mr. Toler was granted 413,773 restricted stock units ("RSUs") under the Issuer's 2019 Equity Incentive Plan (the "December 2019 RSUs"). The December 2019 RSUs will only vest upon the satisfaction of (x) a performance-based vesting requirement, which includes an initial public offering, and (y) the following timebased vesting requirements: 25% on December 19, 2020 and 6.25% at the end of every three-month period thereafter. On February 11, 2019, Mr. Toler was granted 1,034,432 RSUs under the Issuer's 2018 Equity Incentive Plan (the "February 2019 RSUs"). The February 2019 RSUs will only vest upon the satisfaction of (x) a performance-based vesting requirement, which includes an initial public offering, and (y) the following time-based vesting requirements: 25% on February 11, 2020 and 6.25% at the end of every three-month period thereafter.
- 2. Reflects a 1-for-3.3712 reverse stock split that was effective on November 24, 2020.
- 3. The Series A convertible preferred stock (the "Series A Preferred Stock") became convertible immediately upon its issuance to Mr. Toler on December 31, 2019 at \$11.80 per share. Each share of the Issuer's Series A Preferred Stock will automatically convert into shares of the Issuer's common stock upon the closing of the Issuer's initial public offering at the lesser of (x) \$11.80 and (y) a discounted price to the price at which the shares of common stock are sold in the Issuer's initial public offering. The Series A Preferred Stock has no expiration date.

Remarks:

Exhibit List - Exhibit 24 - Power of Attorney

/s/ William Toler 12/09/2020

** Signature of Reporting

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

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know all by these present, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints each of B. John Lindeman of Hydrofarm Holdings Group, Inc. (the "Company"), and Kenneth Koch, Jeffrey Cohan, Ashna Pai and Amanda Navarro of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., signing singly, with full power of substitution, the undersigned's true and lawful attorney-in-fact to:

- (1) execute and deliver for and on behalf of the undersigned, forms and authentication documents for EDGAR Filing Access;
- do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to complete and execute any such forms and authentication documents;
- (3) execute and deliver for and on behalf of the undersigned, in the undersigned's capacity as an officer, director and/or 10% shareholder of the Company, Forms 3, 4 and 5 in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules thereunder;
- (4) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to complete and execute any such Form 3, 4 or 5 and timely file such form with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any stock exchange, self-regulatory or similar authority; and
- (5) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in such attorney-in-fact's discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary, or proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do if personally present, 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 by virtue of this Power of Attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. 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, (i) any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with the requirements of the Exchange Act or any liability for the undersigned's failure to comply with such requirements or (ii) any obligation or liability that the undersigned incurs for profit disgorgement under Section 16(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

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 foregoing attorneys-in-fact.

This Power of Attorney does not revoke any other power of attorney that the undersigned has previously granted.

[Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed this 9th day of December, 2020.

| /s/ William Toler |
|-------------------|
| Signature |
| William Toler |
| Print Name |
| |