

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): **February 9, 2026**

AEYE, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-39699

(Commission File Number)

37-1827430

(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

4670 Willow Road, Suite 125, Pleasanton, California

(Address of principal executive offices)

94588

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(925) 400-4366**

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligations of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share	LIDR	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC
Warrants to receive one share of Common Stock	LIDRW	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

Adoption of New Grant Agreements

On February 9, 2026, the Compensation Committee (the “Committee”) of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of AEye, Inc. (the “Company”), as the administrator of the Company’s existing 2021 Equity Incentive Plan (the “Plan”), adopted new standard forms of (i) Notice of Grant of Performance Stock Units (Cash-Settlement Option); (ii) Notice of Grant of Restricted Stock Units (Cash-Settlement Option); (iii) Performance Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option); and (iv) Restricted Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option) (collectively, the “2021 EIP Agreements”) for use with the Plan.

The foregoing description of the 2021 EIP Agreements is not complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the text of the 2021 EIP Agreements, which are filed herewith as Exhibits 10.1, 10.2, 10.3, and 10.4, respectively, to this Current Report on Form 8-K, and are incorporated herein by this reference.

Grant of Performance Stock Units

On February 9, 2026, the Committee awarded performance-based equity grants to certain of the Company’s executive officers in the form of performance stock units (the “PSUs”). Andrew S. Hughes, our General Counsel, was awarded 121,229 PSUs, and Conor B. Tierney, our Chief Financial Officer, was awarded 208,713 PSUs.

On February 11, 2026, on the recommendation of the Committee, the Board awarded 834,724 PSUs to Matthew Fisch, our Chief Executive Officer.

The performance condition for the PSUs will be satisfied and the PSUs will vest in increments of one-third (1/3) of the total PSUs granted to each of the executive officers when the closing price of the Company’s common stock, as reported by NASDAQ (or other recognized national exchange on which the Company’s common stock is then traded) achieves each of the following milestones: (i) meets or exceeds an average of \$3.00 per share; (ii) meets or exceeds an average of \$4.00 per share; and (iii) meets or exceeds an average of \$5.00 per share (in all cases as adjusted for any stock splits or other corporate actions) over any five (5) consecutive trading days. As provided in Section 6.1 of the grant agreement, to the extent that there are an insufficient number of shares in the Plan on the vesting date, the awards will be settled in cash based on the five-day trailing average of the Company’s closing price as reported on NASDAQ. If the performance condition is not satisfied prior to December 31, 2030, any PSUs not vested by that date will be forfeited in their entirety. The PSUs are otherwise governed by the Plan.

Item 9.01. Financial Statement and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit Number	Description
10.1	Notice of Grant of Performance Stock Units (Cash-Settlement Option).
10.2	Notice of Grant of Restricted Stock Units (Cash-Settlement Option).
10.3	Performance Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option).
10.4	Restricted Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option).
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101).

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: February 11, 2026

AEye, Inc.

By: /s/ Andrew S. Hughes

Andrew S. Hughes

Executive Vice President, General Counsel & Corporate
Secretary

AEYE, INC.
NOTICE OF GRANT OF PERFORMANCE STOCK UNITS
(CASH-SETTLEMENT OPTION)
(U.S. Participants)

AEye, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "*Company*"), has granted to the Participant an award (the "*Award*") of units pursuant to a grant otherwise governed by the AEye, Inc. 2021 Equity Incentive Plan (the "*Plan*"), each of which represents the right to receive on the applicable Settlement Date one (1) share of Stock or cash, as follows:

Participant: [_____]

Date of Grant: [_____]

Vesting Commencement Date: [_____]

Number of RSUs¹: [_____]

Settlement Date: Except as provided by the Performance Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option), the date on which a Unit becomes a Vested Unit.

Vested Units: Except as provided in the Performance Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option) or this Grant Notice and provided that the Participant's Service has not terminated prior to the applicable date, the number of Vested Units (disregarding any resulting fractional Unit) shall cumulatively increase on each respective date as set forth in your E*TRADE account.

Performance Condition: [_____]

Superseding Agreement: None.

By their signatures below or by electronic acceptance or authentication in a form authorized by the Company, the Company and the Participant agree that the Award is governed by this Grant Notice and by the provisions of the Performance Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option) and the Plan, both of which are made a part of this document, and by the Superseding Agreement, if any. The Participant acknowledges that copies of the Plan, the Performance Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option), and the prospectus for the Plan are available on the Company's internal web site and may be viewed and printed by the Participant for attachment to the Participant's copy of this Grant Notice. The Participant represents that the Participant has read and is familiar with the provisions of the Performance Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option) and the Plan, and hereby accepts the Award subject to all of their terms and conditions.

AEye, Inc. **Agreed and accepted:**

By: _____ _____
 [authorized officer] [participant]

ATTACHMENTS: 2021 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended, Performance Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option), and Plan Prospectus

¹ Each "Unit" is subject to adjustment as provided by the Performance Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option).

**AEYE, INC.
 NOTICE OF GRANT OF RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS
 (CASH-SETTLEMENT OPTION)
 (U.S. Participants)**

AEye, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the “*Company*”), has granted to the Participant an award (the “*Award*”) of units pursuant to a grant otherwise governed by the AEye, Inc. 2021 Equity Incentive Plan (the “*Plan*”), each of which represents the right to receive on the applicable Settlement Date one (1) share of Stock or cash, as follows:

- Participant:** [_____]
- Date of Grant:** [_____]
- Vesting Commencement Date:** [_____]
- Number of RSUs¹:** [_____]
- Settlement Date:** Except as provided by the Restricted Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option), the date on which a Unit becomes a Vested Unit.
- Vested Units:** Except as provided in the Restricted Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option) or this Grant Notice and provided that the Participant’s Service has not terminated prior to the applicable date, the number of Vested Units (disregarding any resulting fractional Unit) shall cumulatively increase on each respective date as set forth in your E*TRADE account.
- Vesting Schedule:** [_____]
- Superseding Agreement:** None.

By their signatures below or by electronic acceptance or authentication in a form authorized by the Company, the Company and the Participant agree that the Award is governed by this Grant Notice and by the provisions of the Restricted Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option) and the Plan, both of which are made a part of this document, and by the Superseding Agreement, if any. The Participant acknowledges that copies of the Plan, the Restricted Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option), and the prospectus for the Plan are available on the Company’s internal web site and may be viewed and printed by the Participant for attachment to the Participant’s copy of this Grant Notice. The Participant represents that the Participant has read and is familiar with the provisions of the Restricted Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option) and the Plan, and hereby accepts the Award subject to all of their terms and conditions.

<p>AEye, Inc.</p> <p>By: _____ [authorized officer]</p>	<p>Agreed and accepted:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>[participant]</p>
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ATTACHMENTS: 2021 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended, Restricted Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option), and Plan Prospectus

¹ Each “Unit” is subject to adjustment as provided by the Restricted Stock Units Agreement (Cash-Settlement Option).

AEYE, INC.
PERFORMANCE STOCK UNITS AGREEMENT
(Cash-Settlement Option)
(U.S. Participants)

AEye, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "**Company**"), has granted to the Participant named in the *Notice of Grant of Performance Stock Units* (the "**Grant Notice**") to which this Performance Stock Units Agreement (the "**Agreement**") is attached an Award consisting of Performance Stock Units (each a "**Unit**") subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Grant Notice and this Agreement. The Award has been granted pursuant to and shall in all respects be subject to the terms and conditions of the AEye, Inc. 2021 Equity Incentive Plan (the "**Plan**"), as amended, the provisions of which are incorporated herein by reference. By signing the Grant Notice, the Participant: (a) acknowledges receipt of and represents that the Participant has read and is familiar with the Grant Notice, this Agreement, the Plan and a prospectus for the Plan prepared in connection with the registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the shares issuable pursuant to the Award (the "**Plan Prospectus**"), (b) accepts the Award subject to all of the terms and conditions of the Grant Notice, this Agreement and the Plan and (c) agrees to accept as binding, conclusive and final all decisions or interpretations of the Committee upon any questions arising under the Grant Notice, this Agreement or the Plan.

1. **DEFINITIONS AND CONSTRUCTION.**

1.1 **Definitions.** Unless otherwise defined herein, capitalized terms shall have the meanings assigned to such terms in the Grant Notice or the Plan.

1.2 **Construction.** Captions and titles contained herein are for convenience only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of any provision of this Agreement. Except when otherwise indicated by the context, the singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular. Use of the term "or" is not intended to be exclusive, unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

2. **ADMINISTRATION.**

All questions of interpretation concerning the Grant Notice, this Agreement, the Plan or any other form of agreement or other document employed by the Company in the administration of the Plan or the Award shall be determined by the Committee. All such determinations by the Committee shall be final, binding and conclusive upon all persons having an interest in the Award, unless fraudulent or made in bad faith. Any and all actions, decisions and determinations taken or made by the Committee in the exercise of its discretion pursuant to the Plan or the Award or other agreement thereunder (other than determining questions of interpretation pursuant to the preceding sentence) shall be final, binding and conclusive upon all persons having an interest in the Award. Any Officer shall have the authority to act on behalf of the Company with respect to any matter, right, obligation, or election which is the responsibility of or which is allocated to the Company herein, provided the Officer has apparent authority with respect to such matter, right, obligation, or election.

3. THE AWARD.

3.1 **Grant of Units.** On the Date of Grant, the Participant shall acquire, subject to the provisions of this Agreement, the Total Number of Units set forth in the Grant Notice, subject to adjustment as provided in Section 9. Each Unit represents a right to receive on a date determined in accordance with the Grant Notice and this Agreement one (1) share of Stock.

3.2 **No Monetary Payment Required.** The Participant is not required to make any monetary payment (other than applicable tax withholding, if any) as a condition to receiving the Units or shares of Stock issued upon settlement of the Units, the consideration for which shall be past services actually rendered or future services to be rendered to a Participating Company or for its benefit. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if required by applicable law, the Participant shall furnish consideration in the form of cash or past services rendered to a Participating Company or for its benefit having a value not less than the par value of the shares of Stock issued upon settlement of the Units.

4. VESTING OF UNITS.

Units acquired pursuant to this Agreement shall become Vested Units as provided in the Grant Notice.

5. COMPANY REACQUISITION RIGHT.

5.1 **Grant of Company Reacquisition Right.** Except to the extent otherwise provided by the Superseding Agreement, if any, in the event that the Participant's Service terminates for any reason or no reason, with or without cause, the Participant shall forfeit and the Company shall automatically reacquire all Units which are not, as of the time of such termination, Vested Units ("**Unvested Units**"), and the Participant shall not be entitled to any payment therefor (the "**Company Reacquisition Right**").

5.2 **Ownership Change Event, Non-Cash Dividends, Distributions and Adjustments.** Upon the occurrence of an Ownership Change Event, a dividend or distribution to the stockholders of the Company paid in shares of Stock or other property, or any other adjustment upon a change in the capital structure of the Company as described in Section 9, any and all new, substituted or additional securities or other property (other than regular, periodic cash dividends paid on Stock pursuant to the Company's dividend policy) to which the Participant is entitled by reason of the Participant's ownership of Unvested Units shall be immediately subject to the Company Reacquisition Right and included in the terms "Units" and "Unvested Units" for all purposes of the Company Reacquisition Right with the same force and effect as the Unvested Units immediately prior to the Ownership Change Event, dividend, distribution or adjustment, as the case may be. For purposes of determining the number of Vested Units following an Ownership Change Event, dividend, distribution or adjustment, credited Service shall include all Service with any corporation which is a Participating Company at the time the Service is rendered, whether or not such corporation is a Participating Company both before and after any such event.

6. SETTLEMENT OF THE AWARD.

6.1 Issuance of Shares of Stock. Subject to the provisions of Section 6.3, the Company shall issue to the Participant within 30 days of the Settlement Date with respect to each Vested Unit to be settled on such date one (1) share of Stock or cash; to the extent Stock is available in the Plan, Stock will be used to settle Vested Units on a prorated basis for all Participants on that Settlement Date, otherwise the Vested Units will be settled in cash. If some or all of the Vested Units are settled in cash, each such Vested Unit shall represent the right to receive cash in an amount equal to the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the Settlement Date. "**Fair Market Value**" shall be defined as the five-day trailing average of the closing price of the Stock, including the Settlement Date, as reported by NASDAQ (or other recognized national exchange on which the Stock is then traded). The Settlement Date with respect to a Unit shall be the date on which such Unit becomes a Vested Unit as provided by the Grant Notice (an "**Original Settlement Date**"); provided, however, that if the tax withholding obligations of a Participating Company, if any, will not be satisfied by the share withholding method described in Section 7.3 and the Original Settlement Date would occur on a date on which a sale by the Participant of the shares to be issued in settlement of the Vested Units would violate the Trading Compliance Policy of the Company, then the Settlement Date for such Vested Units shall be deferred until the next day on which the sale of such shares would not violate the Trading Compliance Policy, but in any event on or before the 15th day of the third calendar month following calendar year of the Original Settlement Date. Shares of Stock issued in settlement of Units shall not be subject to any restriction on transfer other than any such restriction as may be required pursuant to Section 6.3, Section 7 or the Company's Trading Compliance Policy.

6.2 Beneficial Ownership of Shares; Certificate Registration. The Participant hereby authorizes the Company, in its sole discretion, to deposit any or all shares acquired by the Participant pursuant to the settlement of the Award with the Company's transfer agent, including any successor transfer agent, to be held in book entry form, or to deposit such shares for the benefit of the Participant with any broker with which the Participant has an account relationship of which the Company has notice. Except as provided by the foregoing, a certificate for the shares acquired by the Participant shall be registered in the name of the Participant, or, if applicable, in the names of the heirs of the Participant.

6.3 Restrictions on Grant of the Award and Issuance of Shares. The grant of the Award and issuance of shares of Stock upon settlement of the Award shall be subject to compliance with all applicable requirements of federal, state, or foreign law with respect to such securities. No shares of Stock may be issued hereunder if the issuance of such shares would constitute a violation of any applicable federal, state, or foreign securities laws or other law or regulations or the requirements of any stock exchange or market system upon which the Stock may then be listed. The inability of the Company to obtain from any regulatory body having jurisdiction the authority, if any, deemed by the Company's legal counsel to be necessary to the lawful issuance of any shares subject to the Award shall relieve the Company of any liability in respect of the failure to issue such shares as to which such requisite authority shall not have been obtained. As a condition to the settlement of the Award, the Company may require the Participant to satisfy any qualifications that may be necessary or appropriate, to evidence compliance with any applicable law or regulation and to make any representation or warranty with respect thereto as may be requested by the Company.

6.4 Fractional Shares. The Company shall not be required to issue fractional shares upon the settlement of the Award.

7. TAX WITHHOLDING.

7.1 **In General.** At the time the Grant Notice is executed, or at any time thereafter as requested by a Participating Company, the Participant hereby authorizes withholding from payroll and any other amounts payable to the Participant, and otherwise agrees to make adequate provision for, any sums required to satisfy the federal, state, local, and foreign tax (including any social insurance) withholding obligations of the Participating Company, if any, which arise in connection with the Award, the vesting of Units or the issuance of shares of Stock in settlement thereof. The Company shall have no obligation to deliver shares of Stock until the tax withholding obligations of the Participating Company have been satisfied by the Participant.

7.2 **Assignment of Sale Proceeds.** Subject to compliance with applicable law and the Company's Trading Compliance Policy, if permitted by the Company, the Participant may satisfy the Participating Company's tax withholding obligations in accordance with procedures established by the Company providing for delivery by the Participant to the Company or a broker approved by the Company of properly executed instructions, in a form approved by the Company, providing for the assignment to the Company of the proceeds of a sale with respect to some or all of the shares being acquired upon settlement of Units.

7.3 **Withholding in Shares.** The Company shall have the right, but not the obligation, to require the Participant to satisfy all or any portion of a Participating Company's tax withholding obligations by deducting from the shares of Stock otherwise deliverable to the Participant in settlement of the Award a number of whole shares having a fair market value, as determined by the Company as of the date on which the tax withholding obligations arise, not in excess of the amount of such tax withholding obligations determined by the applicable minimum statutory withholding rates if required to avoid liability classification of the Award under generally accepted accounting principles in the United States. Any determination by the Company with respect to whether to permit the withholding of shares of Stock to satisfy the tax withholding obligation shall be made by the Committee if the Participant is subject to Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

8. EFFECT OF CHANGE IN CONTROL.

In the event of a Change in Control, the Award shall be subject to and treated as set forth in Section 13 of the Plan.

9. ADJUSTMENTS FOR CHANGES IN CAPITAL STRUCTURE.

The Award shall be subject to and treated as set forth in Section 4.3 of the Plan.

10. RIGHTS AS A STOCKHOLDER, DIRECTOR, EMPLOYEE, OR CONSULTANT.

The Participant shall have no rights as a stockholder with respect to any shares which may be issued in settlement of this Award until the date of the issuance of such shares (as evidenced by the appropriate entry on the books of the Company or of a duly authorized transfer agent of the Company). No adjustment shall be made for dividends, distributions, or other rights for which the record date is prior to the date the shares are issued, except as provided in Section 9. If the Participant is an Employee, the Participant understands and acknowledges that, except as otherwise provided in a separate, written employment agreement between a Participating Company and the Participant, the Participant's employment is "at will" and is for no specified term. Nothing in this Agreement shall confer upon the Participant any right to continue in the Service of a Participating Company or interfere in any way with any right of the Participating Company Group to terminate the Participant's Service at any time.

11. LEGENDS.

The Company may at any time place legends referencing any applicable federal, state, or foreign securities law restrictions on all certificates representing shares of stock issued pursuant to this Agreement. The Participant shall, at the request of the Company, promptly present to the Company any and all certificates representing shares acquired pursuant to this Award in the possession of the Participant in order to carry out the provisions of this Section 11.

12. COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 409A.

It is intended that any election, payment or benefit which is made or provided pursuant to or in connection with this Award that may result in Section 409A Deferred Compensation shall comply in all respects with the applicable requirements of Section 409A (including applicable regulations or other administrative guidance thereunder, as determined by the Committee in good faith) to avoid the unfavorable tax consequences provided therein for non-compliance. In connection with effecting compliance with or an exemption from Section 409A, the following shall apply:

12.1 Separation from Service; Required Delay in Payment to Specified Employee. Notwithstanding anything set forth herein to the contrary, no amount payable pursuant to this Agreement on account of the Participant's termination of Service which constitutes Section 409A Deferred Compensation shall be paid unless and until the Participant has incurred a "separation from service" within the meaning of the Treasury Regulations issued pursuant to Section 409A of the Code (the "**Section 409A Regulations**"). Furthermore, to the extent that the Participant is a "specified employee" within the meaning of the Section 409A Regulations as of the date of the Participant's separation from service, no Section 409A Deferred Compensation which is payable on account of the Participant's separation from service shall be paid to the Participant before the date (the "**Delayed Payment Date**") which is first day of the seventh month after the date of the Participant's separation from service or, if earlier, the date of the Participant's death following such separation from service. All such amounts that would, but for this Section, become payable prior to the Delayed Payment Date will be accumulated and paid on the Delayed Payment Date.

12.2 Other Changes in Time of Payment. Neither the Participant nor the Company shall take any action to accelerate or delay the payment of any benefits under this Agreement in any manner which would not be in compliance with the Section 409A Regulations.

12.3 **Installment Payments.** It is the intent that any right of Participant to receive installment payments (within the meaning of Section 409A) with respect to the Units subject to this Agreement shall, for all purposes of Section 409A, be treated as a right to a series of separate payments.

12.4 **Amendments to Comply with Section 409A; Indemnification.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, the Company is authorized to amend this Agreement, to void or amend any election made by the Participant under this Agreement and/or to delay the payment of any monies and/or provision of any benefits in such manner as may be determined by the Company, in its discretion, to be necessary or appropriate to comply with or be exempt from the Section 409A Regulations without prior notice to or consent of the Participant. The Participant hereby releases and holds harmless the Company, its directors, officers and stockholders from any and all claims that may arise from or relate to any tax liability, penalties, interest, costs, fees or other liability incurred by the Participant in connection with the Award, including as a result of the application of Section 409A.

12.5 **Advice of Independent Tax Advisor.** The Company has not obtained a tax ruling or other confirmation from the Internal Revenue Service with regard to the application of Section 409A to the Award, and the Company does not represent or warrant that this Agreement will avoid adverse tax consequences to the Participant, including as a result of the application of Section 409A to the Award. The Participant hereby acknowledges that he or she has been advised to seek the advice of his or her own independent tax advisor prior to entering into this Agreement and is not relying upon any representations of the Company or any of its agents as to the effect of or the advisability of entering into this Agreement.

13. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

13.1 **Termination or Amendment.** The Committee may terminate or amend the Plan or this Agreement at any time; provided, however, that except as provided in Section 8 in connection with a Change in Control, no such termination or amendment may have a materially adverse effect on the Participant's rights under this Agreement without the consent of the Participant unless such termination or amendment is necessary to comply with applicable law or government regulation, including, but not limited to, Section 409A. No amendment or addition to this Agreement shall be effective unless in writing.

13.2 **Nontransferability of the Award.** Prior to the issuance of shares of Stock on the applicable Settlement Date, neither this Award nor any Units subject to this Award shall be subject in any manner to anticipation, alienation, sale, exchange, transfer, assignment, pledge, encumbrance, or garnishment by creditors of the Participant or the Participant's beneficiary, except transfer by will or by the laws of descent and distribution. All rights with respect to the Award shall be exercisable during the Participant's lifetime only by the Participant or the Participant's guardian or legal representative.

13.3 **Further Instruments.** The parties hereto agree to execute such further instruments and to take such further action as may reasonably be necessary to carry out the intent of this Agreement.

13.4 **Binding Effect.** This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of the successors and assigns of the Company and, subject to the restrictions on transfer set forth herein, be binding upon the Participant and the Participant's heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns.

13.5 Delivery of Documents and Notices. Any document relating to participation in the Plan or any notice required or permitted hereunder shall be given in writing and shall be deemed effectively given (except to the extent that this Agreement provides for effectiveness only upon actual receipt of such notice) upon personal delivery, electronic delivery at the e-mail address, if any, provided for the Participant by a Participating Company, or upon deposit in the U.S. Post Office or foreign postal service, by registered or certified mail, or with a nationally recognized overnight courier service, with postage and fees prepaid, addressed to the other party at the address of such party set forth in the Grant Notice or at such other address as such party may designate in writing from time to time to the other party.

(a) **Description of Electronic Delivery and Signature.** The Plan documents, which may include but do not necessarily include: the Plan, the Grant Notice, this Agreement, the Plan Prospectus, and any reports of the Company provided generally to the Company's stockholders, may be delivered to the Participant electronically. In addition, if permitted by the Company, the Participant may deliver electronically the Grant Notice to the Company or to such third party involved in administering the Plan as the Company may designate from time to time. Such means of electronic delivery may include but do not necessarily include the delivery of a link to a Company intranet or the Internet site of a third party involved in administering the Plan, the delivery of the document via e-mail or such other means of electronic delivery specified by the Company. Any and all such documents and notices may be electronically signed.

(b) **Consent to Electronic Delivery and Signature.** The Participant acknowledges that the Participant has read Section 13.5(a) of this Agreement and consents to the electronic delivery of the Plan documents and, if permitted by the Company, the delivery of the Grant Notice, as described in Section 13.5(a). The Participant agrees that any and all such documents requiring a signature may be electronically signed and that such electronic signature shall have the same effect as handwritten signature for the purposes of validity, enforceability and admissibility. The Participant acknowledges that he or she may receive from the Company a paper copy of any documents delivered electronically at no cost to the Participant by contacting the Company by telephone or in writing. The Participant further acknowledges that the Participant will be provided with a paper copy of any documents if the attempted electronic delivery of such documents fails. Similarly, the Participant understands that the Participant must provide the Company or any designated third party administrator with a paper copy of any documents if the attempted electronic delivery of such documents fails. The Participant may revoke his or her consent to the electronic delivery of documents described in Section 13.5(a) or may change the electronic mail address to which such documents are to be delivered (if Participant has provided an electronic mail address) at any time by notifying the Company of such revoked consent or revised e-mail address by telephone, postal service or electronic mail. Finally, the Participant understands that he or she is not required to consent to electronic delivery of documents described in Section 13.5(a).

13.6 Integrated Agreement. The Grant Notice, this Agreement and the Plan, together with the Superseding Agreement, if any, shall constitute the entire understanding and agreement of the Participant and the Participating Company Group with respect to the subject matter contained herein or therein and supersede any prior agreements, understandings, restrictions, representations, or warranties among the Participant and the Participating Company Group with respect to such subject matter. To the extent contemplated herein or therein, the provisions of the Grant Notice, this Agreement and the Plan shall survive any settlement of the Award and shall remain in full force and effect.

13.7 Applicable Law. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Delaware as such laws are applied to agreements between Delaware residents entered into and to be performed entirely within the State of Delaware.

13.8 Counterparts. The Grant Notice may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

AEYE, INC.
RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS AGREEMENT
(Cash-Settlement Option)
(U.S. Participants)

AEye, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the “*Company*”), has granted to the Participant named in the *Notice of Grant of Restricted Stock Units* (the “*Grant Notice*”) to which this Restricted Stock Units Agreement (the “*Agreement*”) is attached an Award consisting of Restricted Stock Units (each a “*Unit*”) subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Grant Notice and this Agreement. The Award has been granted pursuant to and shall in all respects be subject to the terms and conditions of the AEye, Inc. 2021 Equity Incentive Plan (the “*Plan*”), as amended, the provisions of which are incorporated herein by reference. By signing the Grant Notice, the Participant: (a) acknowledges receipt of and represents that the Participant has read and is familiar with the Grant Notice, this Agreement, the Plan and a prospectus for the Plan prepared in connection with the registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the shares issuable pursuant to the Award (the “*Plan Prospectus*”), (b) accepts the Award subject to all of the terms and conditions of the Grant Notice, this Agreement and the Plan and (c) agrees to accept as binding, conclusive and final all decisions or interpretations of the Committee upon any questions arising under the Grant Notice, this Agreement or the Plan.

1. **DEFINITIONS AND CONSTRUCTION.**

1.1 **Definitions.** Unless otherwise defined herein, capitalized terms shall have the meanings assigned to such terms in the Grant Notice or the Plan.

1.2 **Construction.** Captions and titles contained herein are for convenience only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of any provision of this Agreement. Except when otherwise indicated by the context, the singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular. Use of the term “or” is not intended to be exclusive, unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

2. **ADMINISTRATION.**

All questions of interpretation concerning the Grant Notice, this Agreement, the Plan or any other form of agreement or other document employed by the Company in the administration of the Plan or the Award shall be determined by the Committee. All such determinations by the Committee shall be final, binding and conclusive upon all persons having an interest in the Award, unless fraudulent or made in bad faith. Any and all actions, decisions and determinations taken or made by the Committee in the exercise of its discretion pursuant to the Plan or the Award or other agreement thereunder (other than determining questions of interpretation pursuant to the preceding sentence) shall be final, binding and conclusive upon all persons having an interest in the Award. Any Officer shall have the authority to act on behalf of the Company with respect to any matter, right, obligation, or election which is the responsibility of or which is allocated to the Company herein, provided the Officer has apparent authority with respect to such matter, right, obligation, or election.

3. THE AWARD.

3.1 **Grant of Units.** On the Date of Grant, the Participant shall acquire, subject to the provisions of this Agreement, the Total Number of Units set forth in the Grant Notice, subject to adjustment as provided in Section 9. Each Unit represents a right to receive on a date determined in accordance with the Grant Notice and this Agreement one (1) share of Stock.

3.2 **No Monetary Payment Required.** The Participant is not required to make any monetary payment (other than applicable tax withholding, if any) as a condition to receiving the Units or shares of Stock issued upon settlement of the Units, the consideration for which shall be past services actually rendered or future services to be rendered to a Participating Company or for its benefit. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if required by applicable law, the Participant shall furnish consideration in the form of cash or past services rendered to a Participating Company or for its benefit having a value not less than the par value of the shares of Stock issued upon settlement of the Units.

4. VESTING OF UNITS.

Units acquired pursuant to this Agreement shall become Vested Units as provided in the Grant Notice.

5. COMPANY REACQUISITION RIGHT.

5.1 **Grant of Company Reacquisition Right.** Except to the extent otherwise provided by the Superseding Agreement, if any, in the event that the Participant's Service terminates for any reason or no reason, with or without cause, the Participant shall forfeit and the Company shall automatically reacquire all Units which are not, as of the time of such termination, Vested Units ("**Unvested Units**"), and the Participant shall not be entitled to any payment therefor (the "**Company Reacquisition Right**").

5.2 **Ownership Change Event, Non-Cash Dividends, Distributions and Adjustments.** Upon the occurrence of an Ownership Change Event, a dividend or distribution to the stockholders of the Company paid in shares of Stock or other property, or any other adjustment upon a change in the capital structure of the Company as described in Section 9, any and all new, substituted or additional securities or other property (other than regular, periodic cash dividends paid on Stock pursuant to the Company's dividend policy) to which the Participant is entitled by reason of the Participant's ownership of Unvested Units shall be immediately subject to the Company Reacquisition Right and included in the terms "Units" and "Unvested Units" for all purposes of the Company Reacquisition Right with the same force and effect as the Unvested Units immediately prior to the Ownership Change Event, dividend, distribution or adjustment, as the case may be. For purposes of determining the number of Vested Units following an Ownership Change Event, dividend, distribution or adjustment, credited Service shall include all Service with any corporation which is a Participating Company at the time the Service is rendered, whether or not such corporation is a Participating Company both before and after any such event.

6. SETTLEMENT OF THE AWARD.

6.1 Issuance of Shares of Stock. Subject to the provisions of Section 6.3, the Company shall issue to the Participant within 30 days of the Settlement Date with respect to each Vested Unit to be settled on such date one (1) share of Stock or cash; to the extent Stock is available in the Plan, Stock will be used to settle Vested Units on a prorated basis for all Participants on that Settlement Date, otherwise the Vested Units will be settled in cash. If some or all of the Vested Units are settled in cash, each such Vested Unit shall represent the right to receive cash in an amount equal to the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the Settlement Date. “*Fair Market Value*” shall be defined as the five-day trailing average of the closing price of the Stock, including the Settlement Date, as reported by NASDAQ (or other recognized national exchange on which the Stock is then traded). The Settlement Date with respect to a Unit shall be the date on which such Unit becomes a Vested Unit as provided by the Grant Notice (an “*Original Settlement Date*”); provided, however, that if the tax withholding obligations of a Participating Company, if any, will not be satisfied by the share withholding method described in Section 7.3 and the Original Settlement Date would occur on a date on which a sale by the Participant of the shares to be issued in settlement of the Vested Units would violate the Trading Compliance Policy of the Company, then the Settlement Date for such Vested Units shall be deferred until the next day on which the sale of such shares would not violate the Trading Compliance Policy, but in any event on or before the 15th day of the third calendar month following calendar year of the Original Settlement Date. Shares of Stock issued in settlement of Units shall not be subject to any restriction on transfer other than any such restriction as may be required pursuant to Section 6.3, Section 7 or the Company’s Trading Compliance Policy.

6.2 Beneficial Ownership of Shares; Certificate Registration. The Participant hereby authorizes the Company, in its sole discretion, to deposit any or all shares acquired by the Participant pursuant to the settlement of the Award with the Company’s transfer agent, including any successor transfer agent, to be held in book entry form, or to deposit such shares for the benefit of the Participant with any broker with which the Participant has an account relationship of which the Company has notice. Except as provided by the foregoing, a certificate for the shares acquired by the Participant shall be registered in the name of the Participant, or, if applicable, in the names of the heirs of the Participant.

6.3 Restrictions on Grant of the Award and Issuance of Shares. The grant of the Award and issuance of shares of Stock upon settlement of the Award shall be subject to compliance with all applicable requirements of federal, state, or foreign law with respect to such securities. No shares of Stock may be issued hereunder if the issuance of such shares would constitute a violation of any applicable federal, state, or foreign securities laws or other law or regulations or the requirements of any stock exchange or market system upon which the Stock may then be listed. The inability of the Company to obtain from any regulatory body having jurisdiction the authority, if any, deemed by the Company’s legal counsel to be necessary to the lawful issuance of any shares subject to the Award shall relieve the Company of any liability in respect of the failure to issue such shares as to which such requisite authority shall not have been obtained. As a condition to the settlement of the Award, the Company may require the Participant to satisfy any qualifications that may be necessary or appropriate, to evidence compliance with any applicable law or regulation and to make any representation or warranty with respect thereto as may be requested by the Company.

6.4 Fractional Shares. The Company shall not be required to issue fractional shares upon the settlement of the Award.

7. TAX WITHHOLDING.

7.1 **In General.** At the time the Grant Notice is executed, or at any time thereafter as requested by a Participating Company, the Participant hereby authorizes withholding from payroll and any other amounts payable to the Participant, and otherwise agrees to make adequate provision for, any sums required to satisfy the federal, state, local, and foreign tax (including any social insurance) withholding obligations of the Participating Company, if any, which arise in connection with the Award, the vesting of Units or the issuance of shares of Stock in settlement thereof. The Company shall have no obligation to deliver shares of Stock until the tax withholding obligations of the Participating Company have been satisfied by the Participant.

7.2 **Assignment of Sale Proceeds.** Subject to compliance with applicable law and the Company's Trading Compliance Policy, if permitted by the Company, the Participant may satisfy the Participating Company's tax withholding obligations in accordance with procedures established by the Company providing for delivery by the Participant to the Company or a broker approved by the Company of properly executed instructions, in a form approved by the Company, providing for the assignment to the Company of the proceeds of a sale with respect to some or all of the shares being acquired upon settlement of Units.

7.3 **Withholding in Shares.** The Company shall have the right, but not the obligation, to require the Participant to satisfy all or any portion of a Participating Company's tax withholding obligations by deducting from the shares of Stock otherwise deliverable to the Participant in settlement of the Award a number of whole shares having a fair market value, as determined by the Company as of the date on which the tax withholding obligations arise, not in excess of the amount of such tax withholding obligations determined by the applicable minimum statutory withholding rates if required to avoid liability classification of the Award under generally accepted accounting principles in the United States. Any determination by the Company with respect to whether to permit the withholding of shares of Stock to satisfy the tax withholding obligation shall be made by the Committee if the Participant is subject to Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

8. EFFECT OF CHANGE IN CONTROL.

In the event of a Change in Control, the Award shall be subject to and treated as set forth in Section 13 of the Plan.

9. ADJUSTMENTS FOR CHANGES IN CAPITAL STRUCTURE.

The Award shall be subject to and treated as set forth in Section 4.3 of the Plan.

10. RIGHTS AS A STOCKHOLDER, DIRECTOR, EMPLOYEE, OR CONSULTANT.

The Participant shall have no rights as a stockholder with respect to any shares which may be issued in settlement of this Award until the date of the issuance of such shares (as evidenced by the appropriate entry on the books of the Company or of a duly authorized transfer agent of the Company). No adjustment shall be made for dividends, distributions, or other rights for which the record date is prior to the date the shares are issued, except as provided in Section 9. If the Participant is an Employee, the Participant understands and acknowledges that, except as otherwise provided in a separate, written employment agreement between a Participating Company and the Participant, the Participant's employment is "at will" and is for no specified term. Nothing in this Agreement shall confer upon the Participant any right to continue in the Service of a Participating Company or interfere in any way with any right of the Participating Company Group to terminate the Participant's Service at any time.

11. LEGENDS.

The Company may at any time place legends referencing any applicable federal, state, or foreign securities law restrictions on all certificates representing shares of stock issued pursuant to this Agreement. The Participant shall, at the request of the Company, promptly present to the Company any and all certificates representing shares acquired pursuant to this Award in the possession of the Participant in order to carry out the provisions of this Section 11.

12. COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 409A.

It is intended that any election, payment or benefit which is made or provided pursuant to or in connection with this Award that may result in Section 409A Deferred Compensation shall comply in all respects with the applicable requirements of Section 409A (including applicable regulations or other administrative guidance thereunder, as determined by the Committee in good faith) to avoid the unfavorable tax consequences provided therein for non-compliance. In connection with effecting compliance with or an exemption from Section 409A, the following shall apply:

12.1 Separation from Service; Required Delay in Payment to Specified Employee. Notwithstanding anything set forth herein to the contrary, no amount payable pursuant to this Agreement on account of the Participant's termination of Service which constitutes Section 409A Deferred Compensation shall be paid unless and until the Participant has incurred a "separation from service" within the meaning of the Treasury Regulations issued pursuant to Section 409A of the Code (the "**Section 409A Regulations**"). Furthermore, to the extent that the Participant is a "specified employee" within the meaning of the Section 409A Regulations as of the date of the Participant's separation from service, no Section 409A Deferred Compensation which is payable on account of the Participant's separation from service shall be paid to the Participant before the date (the "**Delayed Payment Date**") which is first day of the seventh month after the date of the Participant's separation from service or, if earlier, the date of the Participant's death following such separation from service. All such amounts that would, but for this Section, become payable prior to the Delayed Payment Date will be accumulated and paid on the Delayed Payment Date.

12.2 Other Changes in Time of Payment. Neither the Participant nor the Company shall take any action to accelerate or delay the payment of any benefits under this Agreement in any manner which would not be in compliance with the Section 409A Regulations.

12.3 **Installment Payments.** It is the intent that any right of Participant to receive installment payments (within the meaning of Section 409A) with respect to the Units subject to this Agreement shall, for all purposes of Section 409A, be treated as a right to a series of separate payments.

12.4 **Amendments to Comply with Section 409A; Indemnification.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, the Company is authorized to amend this Agreement, to void or amend any election made by the Participant under this Agreement and/or to delay the payment of any monies and/or provision of any benefits in such manner as may be determined by the Company, in its discretion, to be necessary or appropriate to comply with or be exempt from the Section 409A Regulations without prior notice to or consent of the Participant. The Participant hereby releases and holds harmless the Company, its directors, officers and stockholders from any and all claims that may arise from or relate to any tax liability, penalties, interest, costs, fees or other liability incurred by the Participant in connection with the Award, including as a result of the application of Section 409A.

12.5 **Advice of Independent Tax Advisor.** The Company has not obtained a tax ruling or other confirmation from the Internal Revenue Service with regard to the application of Section 409A to the Award, and the Company does not represent or warrant that this Agreement will avoid adverse tax consequences to the Participant, including as a result of the application of Section 409A to the Award. The Participant hereby acknowledges that he or she has been advised to seek the advice of his or her own independent tax advisor prior to entering into this Agreement and is not relying upon any representations of the Company or any of its agents as to the effect of or the advisability of entering into this Agreement.

13. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

13.1 **Termination or Amendment.** The Committee may terminate or amend the Plan or this Agreement at any time; provided, however, that except as provided in Section 8 in connection with a Change in Control, no such termination or amendment may have a materially adverse effect on the Participant's rights under this Agreement without the consent of the Participant unless such termination or amendment is necessary to comply with applicable law or government regulation, including, but not limited to, Section 409A. No amendment or addition to this Agreement shall be effective unless in writing.

13.2 **Nontransferability of the Award.** Prior to the issuance of shares of Stock on the applicable Settlement Date, neither this Award nor any Units subject to this Award shall be subject in any manner to anticipation, alienation, sale, exchange, transfer, assignment, pledge, encumbrance, or garnishment by creditors of the Participant or the Participant's beneficiary, except transfer by will or by the laws of descent and distribution. All rights with respect to the Award shall be exercisable during the Participant's lifetime only by the Participant or the Participant's guardian or legal representative.

13.3 **Further Instruments.** The parties hereto agree to execute such further instruments and to take such further action as may reasonably be necessary to carry out the intent of this Agreement.

13.4 **Binding Effect.** This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of the successors and assigns of the Company and, subject to the restrictions on transfer set forth herein, be binding upon the Participant and the Participant's heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns.

13.5 Delivery of Documents and Notices. Any document relating to participation in the Plan or any notice required or permitted hereunder shall be given in writing and shall be deemed effectively given (except to the extent that this Agreement provides for effectiveness only upon actual receipt of such notice) upon personal delivery, electronic delivery at the e-mail address, if any, provided for the Participant by a Participating Company, or upon deposit in the U.S. Post Office or foreign postal service, by registered or certified mail, or with a nationally recognized overnight courier service, with postage and fees prepaid, addressed to the other party at the address of such party set forth in the Grant Notice or at such other address as such party may designate in writing from time to time to the other party.

(a) **Description of Electronic Delivery and Signature.** The Plan documents, which may include but do not necessarily include: the Plan, the Grant Notice, this Agreement, the Plan Prospectus, and any reports of the Company provided generally to the Company's stockholders, may be delivered to the Participant electronically. In addition, if permitted by the Company, the Participant may deliver electronically the Grant Notice to the Company or to such third party involved in administering the Plan as the Company may designate from time to time. Such means of electronic delivery may include but do not necessarily include the delivery of a link to a Company intranet or the Internet site of a third party involved in administering the Plan, the delivery of the document via e-mail or such other means of electronic delivery specified by the Company. Any and all such documents and notices may be electronically signed.

(b) **Consent to Electronic Delivery and Signature.** The Participant acknowledges that the Participant has read Section 13.5(a) of this Agreement and consents to the electronic delivery of the Plan documents and, if permitted by the Company, the delivery of the Grant Notice, as described in Section 13.5(a). The Participant agrees that any and all such documents requiring a signature may be electronically signed and that such electronic signature shall have the same effect as handwritten signature for the purposes of validity, enforceability and admissibility. The Participant acknowledges that he or she may receive from the Company a paper copy of any documents delivered electronically at no cost to the Participant by contacting the Company by telephone or in writing. The Participant further acknowledges that the Participant will be provided with a paper copy of any documents if the attempted electronic delivery of such documents fails. Similarly, the Participant understands that the Participant must provide the Company or any designated third party administrator with a paper copy of any documents if the attempted electronic delivery of such documents fails. The Participant may revoke his or her consent to the electronic delivery of documents described in Section 13.5(a) or may change the electronic mail address to which such documents are to be delivered (if Participant has provided an electronic mail address) at any time by notifying the Company of such revoked consent or revised e-mail address by telephone, postal service or electronic mail. Finally, the Participant understands that he or she is not required to consent to electronic delivery of documents described in Section 13.5(a).

13.6 Integrated Agreement. The Grant Notice, this Agreement and the Plan, together with the Superseding Agreement, if any, shall constitute the entire understanding and agreement of the Participant and the Participating Company Group with respect to the subject matter contained herein or therein and supersede any prior agreements, understandings, restrictions, representations, or warranties among the Participant and the Participating Company Group with respect to such subject matter. To the extent contemplated herein or therein, the provisions of the Grant Notice, this Agreement and the Plan shall survive any settlement of the Award and shall remain in full force and effect.

13.7 Applicable Law. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Delaware as such laws are applied to agreements between Delaware residents entered into and to be performed entirely within the State of Delaware.

13.8 Counterparts. The Grant Notice may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.