

SARLES H JAY  
Form 4  
April 29, 2003

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

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Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Filed By  
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Section 16 Filer  
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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <b>Sarles H. Jay</b> (Last) (First) (Middle)			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>FleetBoston Financial Corporation (FBF)</b>			6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) <b>Vice Chairman and Chief Administrative Officer</b>		
FleetBoston Financial Corporation 100 Federal Street			3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (voluntary)			4. Statement for Month/Day/Year <b>04/28/03</b>		
(Street) <b>Boston, MA 02110</b>			5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)			7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)			2. Trans-action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)		2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/ Year)		3. Trans-action Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 & 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Follow-ing Reported Transactions(s) (Instr. 3 & 4)		6. Owner-ship Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price									
Common Stock	04/28/03		M		20,000	A	\$16.38						D			
Common Stock	04/28/03		F <sup>(1)</sup>		2,636	D	\$26.88			435,822			D			
Common Stock										33,970.6798			I	401(k) Plan <sup>(2)</sup>		
Common Stock										200			I	By Daughter - Kathryn D. Sarles		

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).

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**FORM 4 (continued) Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

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(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 & 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 & 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$16.38	04/28/03		M		20,000		09/15/94	09/14/03	Common Stock	20,000		60,000	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) Withholding of shares or delivery of previously owned shares to satisfy tax withholding obligations in connection with a stock option exercise.
- (2) Based on a plan statement as of December 31, 2002.

By: /s/ **H. Jay Sarles**  
**H. Jay Sarles**  
 \*\*Signature of Reporting Person

**04/29/03**  
 Date

\*\*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.

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