Knutson Craig L Form 4 January 03, 2018

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

Number: 3235-0287

Synings January 31,

Estimated average burden hours per

burden hours per response... 0.5

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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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

(City)

may continue.

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Knutson Craig L Issuer Symbol MFA FINANCIAL, INC. [MFA] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 10% Owner _X__ Director X_ Officer (give title Other (specify C/O MFA FINANCIAL, INC., 350 12/31/2017 below) PARK AVENUE, 20TH FLOOR CEO and President (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting NEW YORK, NY 10022 Person

(- 3)	(******)	1 abic	e 1 - Non-De	erivative Securities Ac	quirea, Disposea (oi, or Beneficial	ly Ownea
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securities Acquired	5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactio	on(A) or Disposed of	Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	(D)	Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership
					Following	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)
				(4)	Reported		
				(A)	Transaction(s)		
			C = V	or	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
~			Code V	Amount (D) Price			
Common	12/31/2017		F	2,039 D \$	705,977	D	
Stock	12/31/2017		1	(1) 7.92	103,711	D	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

(Zip)

(State)

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exerc		7. Title a		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)			Amount Underlyi Securitie (Instr. 3	ing es	Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	or Title N of	umber		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
reporting owner runner runners	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Knutson Craig L C/O MFA FINANCIAL, INC. 350 PARK AVENUE, 20TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10022	X		CEO and President			

Signatures

/s/ Craig L.
Knutson

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).
- (1) The reported disposition represents the surrender of shares to satisfy tax obligations arising from the vesting of restricted stock that was previously granted to the Reporting Person.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. 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 number.

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