

Dawson James D.
Form 4
May 17, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Dawson James D.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
BOSTON PRIVATE FINANCIAL HOLDINGS INC [BPFH]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
TEN POST OFFICE SQUARE
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
05/15/2012

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
EVP, Senior Integration Exec.

BOSTON, MA 02109
(City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount		
Common Stock	05/15/2012		A		18,330 (4)	D	
					\$ 9.82 (1)		
					165,203.3153		

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

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(9-02)

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 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	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Performance Shares	\$ 9.82 ⁽¹⁾	05/15/2012		A	27,495 ⁽³⁾	⁽³⁾	⁽²⁾	Common Stock	27,495

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Dawson James D. TEN POST OFFICE SQUARE BOSTON, MA 02109			EVP, Senior Integration Exec.	

Signatures

/s/ Margaret W. Chambers, attorney-in-fact for Mr. Dawson 05/17/2012

⁽¹⁾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) May 15, 2012 close price - 30 day share price (30 day trailing trading days from April 15, 2012).
- (2) The performance shares vest based on the Company's performance for the period January 1, 2012 To December 31, 2015
- (3) The performance shares vest on May 15, 2015, based on the Company's performance for the period January 1, 2012 To December 31, 2014.
- (4) Shares vest May 15, 2015.

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.