

Northwest Bancshares, Inc.
Form 4
May 23, 2014

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 *
Ritzert Gerald J

(Last) (First) (Middle)

100 LIBERTY STREET

(Street)

WARREN, PA 16365

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Northwest Bancshares, Inc. [NWBI]

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

05/21/2014

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

Senior V.P., Controller

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|---------------|---|------------|
| | | | Code | V | Amount or Price | | | | | |
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Common Stock | 05/21/2014 | 05/21/2014 | A | | 3,830 (1) | A | \$ 13.22 | 29,705.97 (3) | D | |
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Common Stock | | | | | | | | 678 | I | Wife's IRA |
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Common Stock | | | | | | | | 10,117.66 (4) | I | 401-K |

Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Common Stock

2,726.21 ⁽⁵⁾ I

ESOP

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

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 control number.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(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, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 13.15 | 05/21/2014 | 05/21/2014 | A | 8,160 ⁽²⁾ | 05/21/2014 05/21/2024 | Common Stock | 8,160 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Ritzert Gerald J 100 LIBERTY STREET WARREN, PA 16365 | | | Senior V.P., Controller | |

Signatures

Gerald J. Ritzert 05/23/2014

**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).

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- (1) One tenth of this grant of RRP shares will vest each year beginning May 21, 2014 and on each May 21st thereafter through May 21, 2023.
- (2) One tenth of this grant of stock options will vest each year beginning May 21, 2014 and on each May 21st thereafter through May 21, 2023.
- (3) Reflects transactions not required to be reported pursuanty Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- (4) Reflects transactions not required to be reported pursuanty Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- (5) Reflects transactions not required to be reported pursuanty Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

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.