Northwest Bancshares, Inc.

Form 4

May 27, 2016

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB APPROVAL OMB

3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

Issuer

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

SECURITIES Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

Symbol

Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Northwest Bancshares, Inc. [NWBI]

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

Ritzert Gerald J

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

| (Last) | (First) (M | iddle) 3. Date of | Earliest Tra | ansaction | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------|--|--|--|---|--|
| 100 LIBERT | | (Month/Day/Year) 05/26/2016 | | | | Director Officer (give titlew) EVP Finance | | Owner (specify ller | | |
| | (Street) | | Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | | i. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person | | | |
| WARREN, P | PA 16365 | | Pers | | | | Form filed by More than One Reporting son | | | |
| (City) | (State) (Z | Zip) Table | e I - Non-D | erivative S | ecurit | ies Acquire | d, Disposed of, o | r Beneficially | Owned | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transacti Code (Instr. 8) | owr Dispos (Instr. 3, | sed of | | 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) | |
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc. | 05/26/2016 | 05/26/2016 | X | 10,125 | A | \$ 9.79 | 51,531.331 | D | | |
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc. | 05/26/2016 | 05/26/2016 | S | 10,125 | D | \$ 14.7384 (2) | 41,406.331 (1) | D | | |
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc. | | | | | | | 678 | I | Wife's IRA | |
| Northwest Bancshares, | | | | | | | 13,361.565 (3) | I | 401-K | |

Inc.

Northwest

Bancshares,
Inc.

3,632.776 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.

SEC 1474

(9-02)

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of orDerivative 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 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 9.79 | 05/26/2016 | 05/26/2016 | X | 10,125 | 11/19/2009 | 11/19/2018 | Common Stock | 10,125 |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Ritzert Gerald J

100 LIBERTY STREET EVP Finance and Controller WARREN, PA 16365

Signatures

Gerald J. Ritzert 05/27/2016

**Signature of 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) Reflects transactions not required to be reported pursuant to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Reporting Owners 2

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- (2) Average price of 10 lots with a low price of \$14.695 and a high price of \$14.755.
- (3) Reflects transactions not required to be reported pursuant to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- (4) Reflects transactions not required to be reported pursuant to 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.