

Stern Neal  
Form 4  
January 03, 2013

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 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 \*  
Stern Neal

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES INC [PRAA]

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
120 CORPORATE BLVD  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
12/31/2012

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
EVP of Operations

NORFOLK, VA 23502  
(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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (A) or (D) Price   |   |  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/31/2012                           |  | A <sup>(1)</sup>               | 2,632 A \$ 0  | 21,462  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/31/2012                           |  | F <sup>(2)</sup>               | 556 D \$ 0  | 20,906  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/31/2012                           |  | F <sup>(3)</sup>               | 550 D \$ 0  | 20,356  | D  |   |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

**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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|  |  |                                      |  |                                |   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares                         |
|  |  |                                      |  |                                |   | Code   | V   | (A)  | (D)  |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                        | Relationships |           |                   |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer           | Other |
| Stern Neal<br>120 CORPORATE BLVD<br>NORFOLK, VA 23502 |               |           | EVP of Operations |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Neal H. Stern                      01/03/2013  
 \*\*Signature of                      Date  
 Reporting Person

## 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).
- These shares were awarded pursuant to the Company's 2011 Long Term Equity Incentive Plan ("LTI Plan") in which the reporting person
- (1) was granted both performance based and time vested restricted shares. These reported shares represent the shares earned under the Adjusted EBITDA performance category.
  - (2) The disposal of these shares are related to the vesting of an award originally granted pursuant to the Company's 2011 LTI Plan.
  - (3) The disposal of these shares are related to the vesting of an award originally granted pursuant to the Company's 2010 LTI Plan.

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.