

Yarad Stephen D.  
Form 4  
December 19, 2012

**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 \*  
Yarad Stephen D.

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O MFA FINANCIAL, INC., 350  
PARK AVENUE, 20TH FLOOR

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10022

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
MFA FINANCIAL, INC. [MFA]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/19/2012

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)  
Chief Financial Officer

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  | (D)  | Price                             |
| COMMON STOCK PAR VALUE \$0.01 PER SHARE | 12/14/2012                           |  | A                              |   | 7,602   | A  | \$ 8.12                           |
|   |                                      |  |                                |   | 15,739  |  | D                                 |
| COMMON STOCK PAR VALUE \$0.01 PER SHARE | 12/16/2012                           |  | F                              |   | 282 <sup>(1)</sup>  | D  | \$ 8.12                           |
|   |                                      |  |                                |   | 15,457  |  | D                                 |
| COMMON STOCK PAR                        | 12/15/2012                           |  | F                              |   | 501 <sup>(1)</sup>  | D  | \$ 8.12                           |
|   |                                      |  |                                |   | 14,956  |  | D                                 |

VALUE  
\$0.01 PER  
SHARE

COMMON  
STOCK PAR

VALUE 12/14/2012 F 876 <sup>(1)</sup> D \$ 14,080 D  
\$0.01 PER  
SHARE 8.12

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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(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. 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. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 6) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares                                       |

## Reporting Owners

### Reporting Owner Name / Address

### Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Yarad Stephen D.  
C/O MFA FINANCIAL, INC.  
350 PARK AVENUE, 20TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10022

Chief Financial Officer

## Signatures

/s/Stephen Yarad 12/19/2012

\*\*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.

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

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