Ottinger Matthew Form 4 January 02, 2013

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB 3235-0287

Number:

Expires:

January 31, 2005

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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

may continue.

See Instruction

Check this box

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(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Ottinger Matthew

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

MFA FINANCIAL, INC. [MFA]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Last) (First)

(Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

12/31/2012

(Check all applicable)

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

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

(Street)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

SVP

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

NEW YORK, NY 10022

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned Indirect (I) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount

(D)

Price

COMMON STOCK.

6,366 PAR VALUE 12/31/2012 \$0 M 20,864 D (1)

\$0.01 PER **SHARE**

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

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4,	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
						and 5)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Num of

Code V (A)

M

(D)

6,366 12/31/2012 12/31/2012

Shar

6,3

COMMON

STOCK

Reporting Owners

<u>(2)</u>

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
-	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Ottinger Matthew						
C/O MFA FINANCIAL, INC.			SVP			
350 PARK AVENUE 20TH FLOOR						
NEW YORK, NY 10022						

12/31/2012

Signatures

PHANTOM

STOCK

/S/MATTHEW OTTINGER 01/02/2013

**Signature of Reporting 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) SHARES ACQUIRED PURSUANT TO THE SETTLEMENT OF RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS (I.E. PHANTOM STOCK)
 GRANTED TO THE REPORTING PERSON ON OCTOBER 26, 2007, WHICH VESTED IN FULL ON DECEMBER 31, 2010
- (2) EACH SHARE OF PHANTOM STOCK WAS THE ECONOMIC EQUIVALENT OF ONE SHARE OF MFA COMMON STOCK. THE REPORTING PERSON SETTLED THEIR SHARES OF PHANTOM STOCK FOR SHARES OF MFA COMMON STOCK.

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.

Reporting Owners 2