

Bankwell Financial Group, Inc.  
 Form 4  
 February 01, 2016

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2015  
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 \*  
**VERRICO ERNEST J SR**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**Bankwell Financial Group, Inc. [BWFG]**

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**C/O BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC., 220 ELM STREET**  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**02/01/2016**

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
**EVP & CFO**

**NEW CANAAN, CT 06840**

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Price   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock <u>(1)</u>         |                                      |  |                                |   | 1,000   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock <u>(2)</u>         |                                      |  |                                |   | 1,600   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock <u>(3)</u>         |                                      |  |                                |   | 3,250   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock <u>(4)</u>         |                                      |  |                                |   | 4,620   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock <u>(4)</u>         |                                      |  |                                |   | 3,647   | D  |                                   |

Edgar Filing: Bankwell Financial Group, Inc. - Form 4

|                                |            |  |   |       |   |               |       |                    |     |
|--------------------------------|------------|--|---|-------|---|---------------|-------|--------------------|-----|
| Common<br>Stock <sup>(4)</sup> |            |  |   |       |   | 7,078         | D     |                    |     |
| Common<br>Stock                |            |  |   |       |   | 16,805        | I     | Joint with<br>Wife |     |
| Common<br>Stock                | 02/01/2016 |  | P | 2,000 | A | \$<br>19.4992 | 2,000 | I                  | IRA |

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<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5.<br>Number<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3,<br>4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Underlying<br>Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Nu<br>Deriv<br>Secur<br>Bene<br>Own<br>Follo<br>Repor<br>Trans<br>(Instr |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|
|   |  |   |   |   |   | Date<br>Exercisable  | Expiration<br>Date  | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares                                      |
|   |  |   |   |   |   | Code   | V (A) (D)   |   |   |

### Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |         |           |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other     |
| VERRICO ERNEST J SR<br>C/O BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.<br>220 ELM STREET<br>NEW CANAAN, CT 06840 |               |           |         | EVP & CFO |

### Signatures

/s/ Ernest J.  
Verrico

02/01/2016

\*\*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) 5,000 shares of restricted stock granted pursuant to the 2007 Bank of New Canaan Stock Option Equity Award Plan and will vest in five equal annual installments of 20%, the first installment of 1,000 shares vested on March 22, 2012 and an additional 20% to vest on each annual anniversary of the grant date thereafter. As of the transaction date, 4,000 Shares have fully vested and been transferred to Joint Ownership with Wife.

(2) 4,000 shares of restricted stock granted pursuant to the 2007 Bank of New Canaan Stock Option Equity Award Plan and will vest in five equal annual installments of 20%, the first installment of 800 shares vested on March 21, 2013 and an additional 20% to vest on each annual anniversary of the grant date thereafter. As of the transaction date, 2,400 Shares have fully vested and been transferred to Joint Ownership with Wife.

(3) 6,500 shares of restricted stock granted pursuant to the 2012 BNC Financial Group, Inc. Stock Plan and will vest in four equal annual installments of 25%, with the first installment to vest on November 5, 2014 and an additional 25% to vest on each annual anniversary of the grant date thereafter. As of the transaction date, 3,250 Shares have fully vested and been transferred to Joint Ownership with Wife.

(4) 16,500 shares of Bankwell Financial Group, Inc. stock granted pursuant to the 2012 Bankwell Financial Group, Inc. Stock Plan. 5,775 of those shares are restricted stock that will vest in five equal annual installments of 20%, with the first installment to vest on December 1, 2015 and an additional 20% to vest on each annual anniversary of the vesting date thereafter. 3,647 of those shares are restricted stock that will vest in four equal annual installments of 25%, with the first installment to vest on December 1, 2016 and an additional 25% to vest on each annual anniversary of the vesting date thereafter. As of the transaction date, 1,155 Shares have fully vested and been transferred to Joint Ownership with Wife. 7,078 of those shares are performance restricted stock and may vest when and if the performance goals are achieved, but in any event no later than December 1, 2019.

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.