

Potter Stephen N
 Form 4
 February 15, 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 *
 Potter Stephen N

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 NORTHERN TRUST CORP
 [NTRS]

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 50 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 02/13/2012

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 President/NTGI

CHICAGO, IL 60603
 (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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | (A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ | | | | | 63,876 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 26,265 | I | By Trust |
| Common Stock | | | | | 1,270 | I | Spouse as Trustee for Son |
| Common Stock | | | | | 1,270 | I | Spouse as Trustee for Daughter |
| | | | | | 8,368 ⁽²⁾ | I | 401(k) |

Common
Stock

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. 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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option (right-to-buy) | \$ 43.65 | 02/13/2012 | | A | 48,110 | <u>(3)</u> 02/13/2022 | Common Stock | 48,110 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|----------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Potter Stephen N 50 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET CHICAGO, IL 60603 | | | President/NTGI | |

Signatures

Paul A. Bernacki Attorney-in-Fact for Stephen N. Potter
Date: 02/15/2012

__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) Represents stock units payable automatically on a 1-for-1 basis in shares of the Corporation's common stock.
- (2) as of 12-31-11
- (3) The option becomes exercisable in four annual installments: 12,028 on February 13, 2013; 12,027 on February 13, 2014; 12,028 on February 13, 2015; and 12,027 on February 13, 2016.

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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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