

EQUITY RESIDENTIAL
Form 4
January 12, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2005
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 *
ALEXANDER JOHN W

(Last) (First) (Middle)

200 SOUTH TRYON STREET

(Street)

CHARLOTTE, NC 28202

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
EQUITY RESIDENTIAL [EQR]

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

01/11/2012

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)

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) |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Common Shares Of Beneficial Interest | 01/11/2012 | | M | 11,838 A | \$ 70,505.64 ⁽¹⁾ | D | |
| Common Shares Of Beneficial Interest | | | | | 41,494.895 ⁽²⁾ | I | SERP Account |

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

SEC 1474
(9-02)

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

Table with 7 columns: 1. Title of Derivative Security, 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security, 3. Transaction Date, 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any, 4. Transaction Code, 5. Number of Derivative Securities, 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date, 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security. Row 1: Non-qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy), \$ 27.2, 01/11/2012, M, 11,838, (3), 01/17/2012, Common Shares of Beneficial Interest.

Reporting Owners

Table with 2 columns: Reporting Owner Name / Address, Relationships. Row 1: ALEXANDER JOHN W, 200 SOUTH TRYON STREET, CHARLOTTE, NC 28202, X. Relationships: Director, 10% Owner, Officer, Other.

Signatures

s/ By: Jane Matz, Attorney-in-fact, 01/12/2012. 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) Direct total includes restricted shares of the Company scheduled to vest in the future.
(2) Represents shares owned by Principal Trust Company, as Trustee of the Equity Residential Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan, for the benefit of the reporting person.
(3) Represents share options scheduled to vest in three equal installments on January 17, 2002, January 17, 2003 and January 17, 2004.

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.