

Elfman Steven Lawrence
 Form 4
 February 24, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 Elfman Steven Lawrence

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 6200 SPRINT PARKWAY
 (Street)

OVERLAND PARK, KS 66251

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 SPRINT NEXTEL CORP [S]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 02/22/2012

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)
 President-Network Operations

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock | 02/22/2012 | | A | (A) or (D) Price 435,268 (1) | \$ 0 (2) | 1,335,054 (3) | D |

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)

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| 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) | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------|------------------|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Am Nur Sha |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 2.23 | 02/22/2012 | | A | 565,217 | (4) 02/22/2022 | Common Stock | 56 | |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Elfman Steven Lawrence 6200 SPRINT PARKWAY OVERLAND PARK, KS 66251 | | | President-Network Operations | |

Signatures

/s/ Stefan K. Schnopp
 Attorney-in-Fact
 Date: 02/24/2012

**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) These restricted stock units are subject to performance-based vesting conditions based on the company's actual results compared to financial objectives established under the long-term incentive compensation plan, and vest 100% on February 22, 2015, subject to achievement of the performance-based vesting conditions.
 - (2) These restricted stock units are issued under Sprint Nextel's 2007 Omnibus Incentive Plan. Each unit represents the right to receive one share of the underlying security at a date in the future.
 - (3) Includes 904,170 restricted stock units, which are subject to forfeiture until they vest.
 - (4) These options become exercisable at the rate of 33 1/3% of the number of shares granted on each of the first three anniversaries of the grant date.

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.