BENSON DONALD E

Form 4

January 27, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287 Number:

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

response...

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

1(b).

(Last)

(City)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

BENSON DONALD E

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

First California Financial Group, Inc.

[FCAL]

(Middle)

(Zip)

(Check all applicable) X_ Director

Officer (give title below)

10% Owner Other (specify

3027 TOWNSGATE ROAD, SUITE 01/25/2012

(First)

300

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Month/Day/Year)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

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

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA 91361

(State)

| 1.Title of Security | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if | 3. Transactio | 4. Securities on Acquired (A) or | 5. Amount of Securities | 6. Ownership Form: Direct | 7. Nature of Indirect | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| (Instr. 3) | | any | Code | Disposed of (D) | Beneficially | (D) or | Beneficial | |
| | | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | Owned | Indirect (I) | Ownership | |
| | | | | | Following | (Instr. 4) | (Instr. 4) | |

Reported (A) Transaction(s)

(Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount Price (D)

Common

value

Stock, 01/25/2012 \$0.01 par

\$0 92,814 (2)

D

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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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 | 2. | 3. Transaction Date | 3A. Deemed | 4. | 5. | 6. Date Exerc | cisable and | 7. Title | and | 8. Price of | 9. Nu |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|----------|-------------|--------|
| Derivative | Conversion | (Month/Day/Year) | Execution Date, if | Transactio | onNumber | Expiration D | ate | Amoun | t of | Derivative | Deriv |
| Security | or Exercise | | any | Code | of | (Month/Day/ | Year) | Underly | ying | Security | Secui |
| (Instr. 3) | Price of | | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Derivative | e | | Securit | ies | (Instr. 5) | Bene |
| | Derivative | | | | Securities | | | (Instr. 3 | 3 and 4) | | Own |
| | Security | | | | Acquired | | | | | | Follo |
| | • | | | | (A) or | | | | | | Repo |
| | | | | | Disposed | | | | | | Trans |
| | | | | | of (D) | | | | | | (Instr |
| | | | | | (Instr. 3, | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 4, and 5) | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | A manuat | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Amount | | |
| | | | | | | Date | Expiration | | Or | | |
| | | | | | | Exercisable | Date | Title Number of | | | |
| | | | | C + V | (A) (D) | | | | | | |
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | | | | Shares | | |

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

10% Owner Officer Other Director

BENSON DONALD E 3027 TOWNSGATE ROAD, SUITE 300 X WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA 91361

Signatures

/s/ Romolo Santarosa, Attorney-in-Fact

01/27/2012

**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 restricted stock that will vest in one-third increments annually on each of January 25, 2013, 2014 and 2015.
- Includes previously reported 3,969 shares of restricted stock that vest in one-third increments annually on each of March 16, 2012, 2013 and 2014 and 3,045 shares of restricted stock that vest in one-third increments annually on each of February 25, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

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.

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