STARNES WILLIAM STANCIL
Form 4
February 27, 2012

FORM 4

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

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

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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
STARNES WILLIAM STANCIL

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O PROASSURANCE CORPORATION, 100 BROOKWOOD PLACE

(Street)

BIRMINGHAM, AL 35209-6811

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
PROASSURANCE CORP [PRA]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/27/2012

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

__X__ Director _____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below) __X__ Other (specify below)
Chairman / Chief Executive Officer

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
_X_ 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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	02/27/2012		A		7,200 (1)	A	$ 89.28	62,846	D	
Common Stock	02/27/2012		F		6,000 (2)	A	$ 89.28	55,646	D	
Common Stock	02/27/2012		F		2,400 (3)	A	$ 89.28	49,646	D	

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

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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)

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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Restricted Stock Units	(4)							(4)	(4)	Common Stock	39
Restricted Stock Units	$ 89.28	02/27/2012		F		4,000 (5)		(5)	(5)	Common Stock	4,00
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	$ 54.28							09/01/2008(6)	09/01/2018	Common Stock	16,00
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	$ 56.16							01/03/2008	07/01/2017	Common Stock	100,0

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
STARNES WILLIAM STANCIL C/O PROASSURANCE CORPORATION 100 BROOKWOOD PLACE BIRMINGHAM, AL 35209-6811	X		Chairman	Chief Executive Officer

Signatures

Frank B. O'Neil, POA for the Reporting Person, W. Stancil Starnes	02/27/2012
**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) These shares are exempt under Rule 16b-3. Bonus shares awarded to the reporting person under the terms of the ProAssurance 2008 Equity Incentive Plan by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors. The Compensation Committee is comprised solely of independent, non-employee directors

(2) Payout of Performance Shares awarded to the reporting person upon completion of a three year performance period at year-end 2011. The Compensation Committee of the ProAssurance Corporation Board of Directors reviewed the company's performance against the defined criteria and approved this award. The Compensation Committee is comprised solely of independent, non-employee directors.

(3) Payout of Restricted Shares awarded to the reporting person upon completion of a three year vesting period. Vesting of 4,000 shares reduced by withholding of 1,600 shares to cover tax liability resulting from the maturation of this award.

(4) RSU's are equal in value to one share of Common Stock, are issued under the 2008 Equity Plan and acquired under terms of the ProAssurance Corporation 2011 Employee Stock Ownership Plan. The RSUs will vest upon the sooner of three years of continuous employment, termination of employment by reason of death or disability or for "good reason," or a change of control of the Company. If a participant terminates employment more than twelve months but less than three years from the date of grant, the RSUs will partially vest based on the number of days that the participant was employed in the vesting period. Any RSUs that are unvested on termination of employment will be forfeited. In addition, if a participant withdraws shares purchased for his or her account, matching unvested RSUs will be forfeited. Upon vesting, we will pay the RSUs in shares of our Common Stock from those shares reserved for issuance under the 2008 Equity Plan. Value to be established upon vesting.

(5) Restricted Stock Unit (RSU) representing a contingent right to receive one share of ProAssurance Corporation common stock, issuable from the 2008 Equity Incentive Plan, vested on February 26, 2012 after the reporting person remained continuously employed by ProAssurance or one of its subsidiaries for three years from date of grant. The RSUs will be settled in shares of ProAssurance Common Stock as valued on February 27, 2012, the first business day after vesting occured, and in cash, with the cash portion being approximately equal to the federal, state, and local taxes.

(6) The options vest in five equal, yearly installments commencing on September 1, 2008

Remarks:

$89.28 is the closing price of a share of ProAssurance Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange on 2/27/12.

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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