

Petit Michael J
 Form 4
 January 03, 2013

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 *
 Petit Michael J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES INC [PRAA]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 140 CORPORATE BLVD
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/31/2012

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 President -Bankruptcy Services

NORFOLK, VA 23502

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | |
| Common Stock | 12/31/2012 | | S ⁽¹⁾ | 1,000 D | \$ 106.25 | 18,142 | D |
| Common Stock | 12/31/2012 | | A ⁽²⁾ | 3,948 A | \$ 0 | 22,090 | D |
| Common Stock | 12/31/2012 | | F ⁽³⁾ | 834 D | \$ 0 | 21,256 | D |
| Common Stock | 12/31/2012 | | F ⁽⁴⁾ | 550 D | \$ 0 | 20,706 | D |

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 displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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(9-02)

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) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Petit Michael J 140 CORPORATE BLVD NORFOLK, VA 23502 | | | President | -Bankruptcy Services |

Signatures

/s/ Michael J.
Petit 01/03/2013

**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 sales are pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 plan dated November 30, 2012.
These shares were awarded pursuant to the Company's 2011 Long Term Equity Incentive Plan ("LTI Plan") in which the reporting person
- (2) was granted both performance based and time vested restricted shares. These reported shares represent the shares earned under the Adjusted EBITDA performance category.
- (3) The disposal of these shares are related to the vesting of an award originally granted pursuant to the Company's 2011 LTI Plan.
- (4) The disposal of these shares are related to the vesting of an award originally granted pursuant to the Company's 2010 LTI Plan.

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.