

Freitag Randal J
Form 4
February 24, 2012

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 *
Freitag Randal J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP
[LNC]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
150 N. RADNOR-CHESTER ROAD
(Street)

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

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
EVP & CFO

RADNOR, PA 19087

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock | 02/22/2012 | | A | (A) or (D) Amount 14,153 (1) | \$ 0 34,212.31 (2) | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 649.93 (3) | I | By 401(k) |

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

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SEC 1474
(9-02)

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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 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) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 24.99 | 02/22/2012 | | A | 52,198 | 02/22/2013 ⁽⁴⁾ 02/22/2022 | Common Stock 52,198 |
| Phantom Stock Units | (5) | | | | | (5) (5) | Common Stock 782 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Freitag Randal J 150 N. RADNOR-CHESTER ROAD RADNOR, PA 19087 | | | EVP & CFO | |

Signatures

/s/ Charles A. Brawley, III,
Attorney-in-Fact

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) Grant of restricted stock units representing a contingent right to receive shares of LNC common Stock. The restricted stock units vest on February 22, 2015.
 - (2) Includes 227.24 shares acquired through dividend reinvestment since the reporting person's last report.
 - (3) Represents routine transactions in the Company's 401(k) Plan from 3/1/2011 to 2/1/2012.
 - (4) The option vests ratably over 3 years beginning on the first anniversary of the grant date.
- Each Phantom Stock Unit is the equivalent of one share of LNC Common Stock. Represents stock units held in the LNC DC SERP that
- (5) may be settled in Common Stock only. The reporting person may transfer his/her Phantom Stock account into an alternative investment account at any time.

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- (6) The number of derivative securities beneficially owned includes amounts previously treated as common stock based on the administration of the LNC Executive Deferred Compensation Plan for Employees.
- (7) Includes 7.68 shares acquired through dividend reinvestment since the reporting person's last report.

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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