

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co
 Form 4
 May 11, 2017

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 *
 Abbott Joseph Patrick Jr.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co [HMHC]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 05/09/2017

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 See Remarks.

C/O HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT CO., 125 HIGH STREET

(Street)

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

BOSTON, MA 02110

(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) | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|-------|---|
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | |
| Common Stock | 05/09/2017 | | M | | 8,975 | A | \$ 0 ⁽¹⁾ | 8,975 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/09/2017 | | F | | 4,190 | D | \$ 12.95 | 4,785 | 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)

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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 (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 or Value of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Restricted Stock Units | (2) | 05/09/2017 | | M | 8,975 | (3) (3) | Common Stock | 8,975 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|--------------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Abbott Joseph Patrick Jr. C/O HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT CO. 125 HIGH STREET BOSTON, MA 02110 | | | | See Remarks. |

Signatures

/s/ William F. Bayers,
Attorney-in-Fact

05/11/2017

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) 8,975 restricted stock units held by Mr. Abbott vested on May 9, 2017 and were settled in exchange for a like amount of shares of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Company's (the "Company") common stock, subject to the Company's withholding of 4,190 shares of common stock to satisfy withholding obligations in connection with federal, state, local or other taxes required to be withheld or paid in connection with the settlement of the restricted stock units.
- (2) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of the Company's common stock.
- (3) The remaining restricted stock units shall vest in two equal installments on May 9, 2018 and May 9, 2019, subject to continued employment with the Company.

Remarks:

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. William F. Bayers is the Executive Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel.

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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