

Lance Thomas W  
 Form 4  
 February 29, 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 \*  
 Lance Thomas W

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O THE BOSTON BEER COMPANY, INC., ONE DESIGN CENTER PLACE, SUITE 850

(Street)

BOSTON, MA 02210

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 BOSTON BEER CO INC [SAM]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 02/14/2012

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 VP Operations

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  
 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 Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				(A) or (D)	Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4. Transaction of	5. Number of Derivative	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	8. Filing Date
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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)	Sec (In		
			Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 95.09	02/14/2012	A	3,750	(1)	12/31/2020		Class A Common	3,750

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Lance Thomas W C/O THE BOSTON BEER COMPANY, INC. ONE DESIGN CENTER PLACE, SUITE 850 BOSTON, MA 02210			VP Operations	

## Signatures

Karthleen H. Wade under POA for the benefit of Thomas W. Lance  
 Date: 02/29/2012

\*\*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).
- On 1/1/2011, the Reporting Person was granted a contingent vesting option for 5,000 shares of the Company Class A Common Stock, which was reported on a Form 4 filed on 1/4/2011. On 2/14/2012, the Compensation Committee of the Company's Board of Directors
- (1) determined that based on the performance criteria set forth in the option, a maximum of 75% of the shares or 3,750 would become exercisable as follows: 750 shares on 3/1/2012, 1/1/2013, 1/1/2014, 1/1/2015 and 1/1/2016, so long as the Reporting Person continues to be employed by the Company on the applicable vesting date.

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.