FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL
OMB Number: 3235-0287
Estimated average burden
hours per response... 0.5

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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| Ì | pe Response | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 11 00 | | / X | |
|--|---|--|--|---|-----|--------|----------------------|--------------|---|------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* DAVIS STEVEN M | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Meritage Homes CORP [MTH] | | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner | | | | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 17851 N. 85TH STREET, SUITE 300 | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/10/2012 | | | | | | | [| X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) Exec VP - COO | | | | | | |
| (Street) SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85255 | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | - | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | | |
| (City |) | (State) | (Zip) | | | Tal | ble I - | - Non | -Deri | vative | Securiti | ies A | cqui | red, Dispo | osed of, or I | Beneficially | Owned | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | | | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, i any (Month/Day/Year | | | f Code (Instr. 8) | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | | Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) | | Following | 6. Ownership Form: | Beneficial | |
| | | | | | | Year) | | ode | V | Amoi | unt (E | r | Price | (Instr. 3 a | nd 4) | | Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| МТН СС | OMMON S | SТОСК | 02/10/2012 | | | | | A | | 12,50 | 1 1 | 5 | \$ 0 | 35,000 | (3) | | D | |
| MTH COMMON STOCK 02/11/2012 | | 02/11/2012 | | | | A | | 7,500 (4) |) A | S | \$ 0 | 36,225 ⁽⁵⁾ | | | D | | | |
| | | | r each class of securi | Derivative | Sec | uritie | es Acc | quire | Personta conta the fo | ons whained in orm dis | no resp n this f splays of, or B | form a cu senef | n are urren ficiall | not requally valid | OMB conf | ormation spond unle trol numbe | ss | 2 1474 (9-02) |
| Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Y | 3A. Deemed Execution Dat Year) any | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 55 M | 5. | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | Owners Form of Derivat Securit Direct or India | f Benefici Ownersh (Instr. 4) ect | | |
| | | | | Code | | | | | Date Exerc | cisable | Expirat Date | tion | Title | Amount or Number of | | | | |

Reporting Owners

| P (0 N / | Relationships | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|--------------|---------------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | | | |
| DAVIS STEVEN M 17851 N. 85TH STREET SUITE 300 SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85255 | | | Exec VP - COO | | | | | | |

Signatures

| /s/ Steven M. Davis | 02/13/2012 |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| **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) Represents grant of restricted stock. The restricted stock will fully vest on the third anniversary of the date of grant.
- (2) In addition to this restricted stock grant, Mr. Davis also received a grant of 12,500 shares of restricted stock on 2/10/2012 that fully vest on the third anniversary of the date of grant; however, vesting is also contingent upon the achievement of pre-specified performance targets.
- (3) Balance represents restricted stock shares not vested but does not include 40,000 shares of restricted stock with vesting contingent upon the achievement of pre-specified performance targets.
- Represents vesting of restricted stock contingent upon the achievement of pre-specified performance goals. An additional 7,500 of restricted stock were forfeited as the performance goals were not obtained.
- (5) Balance reflects all other holdings, including restricted shares that have vested.

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.