FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL

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

| X | Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b). |
|---|---|
| _ | may continue. See Instruction 1(b). |

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person [*] <u>FINKEL SHIRA E</u> | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>MFA FINANCIAL, INC.</u> [MFA] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | |
|---|----------------|----------|--|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|
| | | | tt | | Director | 10% Owner | | |
| (1. aat) | (First) | (Middle) | | X | Officer (give title below) | Other (specify below) | | |
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) | | Senior Vice Pres | ident | | |
| C/O MFA FINAN | | | 11/08/2012 | | | | | |
| 350 PARK AVEN | UE, 20TH FLOOR | | | | | | | |
| (Street) | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Indiv | idual or Joint/Group Filing (Ch | eck Applicable Line) | | |
| NEW YORK | NY | 10022 | | X | Form filed by One Reporting | g Person | | |
| | | | | | Form filed by More than On | e 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) | Execution Date, | | tion nstr. | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | Securities | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership |
|--|--|-----------------|------|---------------|--|---------------|---------|------------------|---|---|
| | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | (Instr. 3 and 4) | | (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share | 11/08/2012 | | Р | | 2,500 | Α | \$7.958 | 31,508 | Ι | By 401(k) |

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) | | Derivative | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | Ownership Form: Direct (D) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|------------|---|--|-----|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | | |

Explanation of Responses:

Remarks:

/s/Shira E. Finkel

** Signature of Reporting Person

<u>11/08/2012</u> Date

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

 * 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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 Number.