

Lasota Stephen
Form 4
February 28, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
Lasota Stephen

(Last) (First) (Middle)

COWEN GROUP, INC., 599
LEXINGTON AVENUE

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10022

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
COWEN GROUP, INC. [COWN]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
02/24/2012

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)

Chief Financial Officer

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) | Price | | | |
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | | |
| Class A Common Stock | 02/24/2012 | | A | 41,978 | A | 11 | 225,397 | D |
| Class A Common Stock | 02/24/2012 | | A | 60,000 | A | 12 | 285,397 | D |
| Class A Common Stock | | | | | | | 37,801 | I |
| | | | | | | | See Footnote (3) | |

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

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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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Lasota Stephen COWEN GROUP, INC. 599 LEXINGTON AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10022 | | | Chief Financial Officer | |

Signatures

/s/ Stephen A. Lasota 02/28/2012

**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 for no monetary consideration. The restricted stock units vest with respect to 12.5% on August 15, 2012, 12.5% on March 10, 2013, 25% on March 10, 2014, 25% on March 10, 2015 and 25% on March 10, 2016.
- (2) Grant of restricted stock units for no monetary consideration. The restricted stock units vest with respect to 25% on June 1, 2013, 25% on June 1, 2014 and 50% on June 1, 2015.
- (3) These shares represent the Reporting Person's pecuniary interest in shares of Class A Common Stock held by RCG Holdings LLC (f/k/a Ramius LLC) ("RCG"), of which the Reporting Person is a member.

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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