

Siminoff Ellen F  
Form 4  
May 18, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287  
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response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
Siminoff Ellen F

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O SOLARWINDS, INC., 3711 S.  
MOPAC EXPY., BLDG. TWO

(Street)

AUSTIN, TX 78746

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol

SolarWinds, Inc. [SWI]

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

05/17/2012

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)

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<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities<br>Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                       |                                         |                                                             | Code                                    | V                                                                          | Amount<br>(A)<br>or<br>(D)                                                                                         | Price                                                                |                                                                   |
| Common<br>Stock                       | 05/17/2012                              |                                                             | A                                       |                                                                            | 999 <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                 | A \$ 0                                                               | 4,689 D                                                           |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of  
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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)**

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| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number<br>of Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of<br>Underlying Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Title and Amount of<br>Underlying Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                     |                                                                    |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V                                                                                                               | (A)                                                            | (D)                                                                 | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares                              |
| Stock<br>Option<br>(right to<br>buy)                | \$ 45.05                                                           | 05/17/2012                              |                                                             | A                                    |                                                                                                                 | 6,277                                                          | <u>(2)</u> 05/17/2022                                               | Common<br>Stock 6,277                                               |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                                                 | Relationships |           |         |       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|                                                                                                | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Siminoff Ellen F<br>C/O SOLARWINDS, INC.<br>3711 S. MOPAC EXPY., BLDG. TWO<br>AUSTIN, TX 78746 |               |           | X       |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Bryan A. Sims,  
Attorney-In-Fact

05/18/2012

\*\*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 restricted stock units awarded pursuant to the annual equity grant under the issuer's director compensation plan that entitle the reporting person to receive one share of issuer's common stock per restricted stock unit. The restricted stock units will fully vest on the earlier of the date of the issuer's 2013 annual meeting of stockholders and December 31, 2013, subject to continued service through the applicable date.

(2) Represents stock options awarded pursuant to the annual equity grant under the issuer's director compensation plan. All of the shares will fully vest on the earlier of the date of the issuer's 2013 annual meeting of stockholders and December 31, 2013, subject to continued service through the applicable date.

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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