

Northwest Bancshares, Inc.  
Form 4  
August 13, 2015

# FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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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 \*  
Ritzert Gerald J

(Last) (First) (Middle)

100 LIBERTY STREET

(Street)

WARREN, PA 16365

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Northwest Bancshares, Inc. [NWBI]

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

08/13/2015

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)

EVP Finance and Controller

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount or Price   |  |   |
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc.      | 08/13/2015                           | 08/13/2015   | X                              |   | 3,937 A \$ 9.86   | 39,493.146   | D   |
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc.      | 08/13/2015                           | 08/13/2015   | S                              |   | 3,937 D \$ 12.62  | 35,556.146 (1)   | D   |
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc.      |                                      |  |                                |   |   | 678  | I Wife's IRA  |
| Northwest Bancshares,           |                                      |  |                                |   |   | 11,686.976 (2)   | I 401-K   |

Inc.  
 Northwest Bancshares, Inc. 3,162.553 <sup>(3)</sup> I ESOP

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. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Stock Options (Right to Buy)               | \$ 9.86  | 08/13/2015                           | 08/13/2015   | X                              | 3,937   | 01/18/2006 01/18/2016                                    | Common Stock  | 3,937                         |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                             | Relationships |           |                            |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|----------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                    | Other |
| Ritzert Gerald J<br>100 LIBERTY STREET<br>WARREN, PA 16365 |               |           | EVP Finance and Controller |       |

## Signatures

Gerald J. Ritzert 08/13/2015  
 \*\*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) Reflects transactions not required to be reported pursuant to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

(2) Reflects transactions not required to be reported pursuant to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

(3) Reflects transactions not required to be reported pursuant to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

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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