

Northwest Bancshares, Inc.  
Form 4  
May 22, 2015

# FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 \*  
Townsend Thomas 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)

05/20/2015

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 Chief Risk 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|   |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount or Price   |  |   |
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Common Stock | 05/20/2015                           | 05/20/2015   | A                              |   | 2,600 <sup>(1)</sup><br>\$ 12.31  | D  |   |
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Common Stock |                                      |  |                                |   | 736.002 <sup>(2)</sup>  | I  | 401-K   |
| Northwest Bancshares, inc. Common Stock |                                      |  |                                |   | 119.074 <sup>(3)</sup>  | I  | ESOP  |

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

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(9-02)

**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)               | \$ 12.37   | 05/20/2015                           | 05/20/2015   | A                              | 5,550<br>(4)  | 05/20/2015 05/20/2025                                    | Common Stock  | 5,550                         |

### Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                              | Relationships |           |                        |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                | Other |
| Townsend Thomas J<br>100 LIBERTY STREET<br>WARREN, PA 16365 |               |           | EVP Chief Risk Officer |       |

### Signatures

Thomas J. Townsend                      05/22/2015  
 \*\*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) One tenth of this grant of RRP shares will vest each year beginning May 20, 2015 and on each May 20th thereafter through May 20, 2024.
- (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.

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- (4) One tenth of this grant of stock options will vest each year beginning May 20, 2015 and on each May 20th thereafter through May 20, 2024.

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.