Stephens John Martin Form 3 February 13, 2012

## FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

3235-0104

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Expires: January 31, 2005

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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

response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person \* Statement MDC HOLDINGS INC [MDC] **Â** Stephens John Martin (Month/Day/Year) 02/13/2012 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 4350 S. MONACO (Check all applicable) STREET, SUITE 500 (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group 10% Owner Director \_X\_\_ Officer Other Filing(Check Applicable Line) (give title below) (specify below) \_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting SVP, CFO, PAO Person DENVER, COÂ 80237 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Â Common Stock \$.01 Par Value (1) 10,000 D Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

currently valid OMB control number.

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security	4. Conversion or Exercise	5. Ownership Form of	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
		(Instr. 4)	Price of	Derivative	(Instr. 5)
		Title	Derivative	Security:	
			Security	Direct (D)	

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Date Expiration Amount or or Indirect Exercisable Date Number of (I) Shares (Instr. 5)

Common

Non-Statutory Stock
Option (right to buy) (2)

02/01/2015 02/01/2022 Stock \$.01 75,000 \$ 20.41 D Â

Par Value

### **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Stephens John Martin

4350 S. MONACO STREET  $\hat{A}$   $\hat{A}$   $\hat{A}$  SVP, CFO, PAO  $\hat{A}$ 

DENVER, COÂ 80237

# **Signatures**

John M. 02/13/2012 Stephens

\*\*Signature of Date
Reporting Person

### **Explanation of Responses:**

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).
- Shares of restricted stock granted February 1, 2012 for no cash consideration under the Company's 2011 Equity Incentive Plan and the 2011 Restricted Stock Agreement form. The restrictions will lapse as to 25% of the shares on each of February 1, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.
- Granted February 1, 2012 under the Company's 2011 Equity Incentive Plan and the 2011 Stock Option Agreement form. This option (2) vests as to 33-1/3% of the shares covered thereby on each of February 1, 2015, 2016 and 2017. This option was granted at the February 1, 2012 market close price.

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#### **Remarks:**

Exhibit List: Exhibit 24, Power of Attorney

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.

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