

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL
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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Klinck Theodore J | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (MM/DD/YYYY) 5/15/2012 | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES INC [HIW] |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 3100 SMOKETREE COURT | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) ____ Director _____ 10% Owner ____ X ____ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below) VP/Chief Investment Officer / | |
| (Street) RALEIGH, NC 27604 (City) (State) (Zip) | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) _ X _ Form filed by One Reporting Person ____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Common Stock | 8576 | D | |

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

| 1. Title of Derivate Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (MM/DD/YYYY) | | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|------------------|---|----------------------------|--|---|---|
| | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | |
| Stock Option (right to buy) | (1) | 3/11/2019 | Common Stock | 9107 | \$31.36 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

(1) Options vest ratably over 4 years on March 1st of each year after the grant date.

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Klinck Theodore J 3100 SMOKETREE COURT RALEIGH, NC 27604 | | | VP/Chief Investment Officer | |

Signatures/s/Willis B. Howard Attorney-in-fact for Theodore J. Klinck5/18/2012

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.