

[] Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. *See* Instruction 1(b).

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

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | |
|--|---|-------------------|---|------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|----------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--|------------|---|--|--|
| FRITSCH EDWARD J | | | | | HIGI HIW | | OODS P | RO | PER | ΓIES Ι | NC [| X_Director | , | 1 | 0% Owner | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) | | | | 3. | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY) | | | | | | | X_Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) President & CEO | | | | |
| C/O HIGHY INC., 3100 S SUITE 600 | | | | | | | 1 | /8/2 | 2013 | | | | | | | |
| | (Str | reet) | | 4. | . If A | mendı | nent, Date | Ori | iginal F | iled (MM | /DD/YYYY) | 6. Individual o | or Joint/G | roup Filing | (Check Appl | icable Line) |
| RALEIGH, | | | Cip) | | | | | | | | | X_Form filed by | | orting Person One Reporting F | 'erson | |
| | | | Table I - | Non-De | eriva | tive S | ecurities A | Acqı | uired, I | Disposed | l of, or Bei | neficially Own | ed | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | | | 2. Tra | | 2A. De Execut Date, in | ion | 3. Trans. Co (Instr. 8) | | Dispose | d of (D) 4 and 5) (A) or | red (A) or Price | 5. Amount of Secur Following Reporte (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock 1/8/2013 | | | | 2013 | 1/8/2013 | | M | | 13332 | A | \$32.37 | 350354 | | D | | |
| Common Stock 1/8/20 | | | | 2013 | 1/8/2 | 2013 | S | | 13332 | D § | 34.49 (1) (2) | 337022 | | D | | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | | | | | | 70 | | I | By Children |
| | Tak | ole II - Dei | rivative Se | curities | Ben | eficial | ly Owned | l (e., | <i>g</i> . , put | s, calls, | warrants, | options, conve | rtible sec | curities) | | |
| 1. Title of Derivate Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Trans. Date | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Trans (Instr. 8) | | 2 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date | | Securities U Derivative S | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned | 10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Da Ex | ate cercisable | Expiratio Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | |
| Stock Option (right to buy) | \$32.37 | 1/8/2013 | 1/8/2013 | M | | | 13332 | | <u>(3)</u> | 2/28/201 | Gommon Stock | 13332 | \$32.37 | 59033 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) Represents the weighted average sale price. Sale prices range from \$34.41-\$34.52
- (2) Reporting person, upon request by the Commission staff, the issuer, or a security holder of the issuer, will disclose full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.
- (3) Options vests ratably over 4 years on March 1st of each year after the grant date. Options scheduled to expire on February 28, 2013 if not exercised.

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | |
| FRITSCH EDWARD J C/O HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES, INC. 3100 SMOKETREE COURT, SUITE 600 RALEIGH, NC 27604 | X | | President & CEO | | | |

Signatures

/s/Willis B. Howard Attorney-in-fact for Edward J. Fritsch

1/10/2013

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 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).

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.