

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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person - HARRIS MICHAEL E | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES INC [HIW] | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) Executive Vice President & COO | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES, INC., 3100 SMOKETREE COURT, SUITE 600 | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY) 2/28/2013 | | | |
| (Street) RALEIGH, NC 27604 | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY) | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | |
| (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | | |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Trans. Date | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 3. Trans. 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 | (A) or (D) | Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 2/28/2013 | 2/28/2013 | A | | 14886 | A | (1) | 159107 | D | |
| Common Stock | 3/1/2013 | 3/1/2013 | F | | 3067 | D | (2) | 156040 | D | |

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

| 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. 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 | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|--|--|----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---|--|---|-----|---|-----------------|--|--|--|--|-------|
| | | | | Code | V | | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | | | | Title |
| Stock Option (right to buy) | \$36.50 | 2/28/2013 | 2/28/2013 | A | | 20565 | | (3) | 2/28/2020 | Common Stock | 20565 | \$36.50 | 20565 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) Restricted stock is granted by the Company and not purchased by the reporting person.
- (2) In accordance with the terms of the initial restricted stock award and in connection with the vesting of the award, the reporting person tendered a portion of the restricted stock award to the issuer in satisfaction of his tax liabilities.
- (3) 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 |
| HARRIS MICHAEL E C/O HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES, INC. 3100 SMOKETREE COURT, SUITE 600 RALEIGH, NC 27604 | | | Executive Vice President & COO | |

Signatures

/s/Willis B. Howard Attorney-in-fact for Michael E. Harris

3/4/2013

**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 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.