

Northwest Bancshares, Inc.
 Form 4
 November 23, 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 *
SMELKO MICHAEL G

(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)
 11/20/2015

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)
 Exec. V.P., Chief Credit Off.

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 (D) or Price (A) | | |
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Common Stock | 11/20/2015 | 11/20/2015 | X | | 2,812 A \$ 9.86 | 58,226 | D |
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Common Stock | 11/20/2015 | 11/20/2015 | S | | 2,030 D \$ 13.7442 | 56,196 | D |
| Northwest Bancshares, | | | | | | 1,019 | I Wife's IRA |

Inc.
Common
Stock

Northwest
Bancshares,
Inc.
Common
Stock

6,997.88 ⁽¹⁾ I 401-K

Northwest
Bancshares,
Inc.
Common
Stock

7,710.43 ⁽²⁾ I ESOP

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

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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) | \$ 9.86 | 11/20/2015 | 11/20/2015 | X | 2,812 | 01/18/2007 01/18/2016 | Common Stock | 2,812 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| SMELKO MICHAEL G 100 LIBERTY STREET WARREN, PA 16365 | | | Exec. V.P., Chief Credit Off. | |

Signatures

Michael G.
Smelko

11/23/2015

__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) Reflects transactions that are not reportable pursuant to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
 - (2) Reflects transactions that are not reportable pursuant to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

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