

Bankwell Financial Group, Inc.  
 Form 5  
 January 29, 2016

**FORM 5**

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

OMB APPROVAL  
 OMB Number: 3235-0362  
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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).  
 Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

**ANNUAL 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**Brandt Michael J**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**Bankwell Financial Group, Inc. [BWFG]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/31/2015

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

**C/O BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC., 220 ELM STREET**

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

**NEW CANAAN, CT 06840**

Form Filed by One Reporting Person  
 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. 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) | (A) or (D) | Amount or Price | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|------------|-----------------|--|--|---|
| Common Stock <u>(1)</u>         | Â                                    | Â  | Â                              | Â   | Â          | Â               | 100  | D  | Â   |
| Common Stock                    | Â                                    | Â  | Â                              | Â   | Â          | Â               | 200  | D  | Â   |
| Common Stock <u>(2)</u>         | Â                                    | Â  | Â                              | Â   | Â          | Â               | 1,460  | I  | Deferred Compensation Plan                            |

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

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(9-02)

**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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. of D S B O E Is F (I    |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  |                                |   | Date Exercisable (A) (D)                                 | Expiration Date   | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares |

## Reporting Owners

**Reporting Owner Name / Address**

**Relationships**

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Brandt Michael J  
C/O BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.  
220 ELM STREET  
NEW CANAAN, CT 06840

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## Signatures

/s/ Michael J. Brandt  
by POA 01/29/2016

\_\_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).
- 300 shares of restricted stock granted pursuant to the 2012 Bankwell Financial Group, Inc. Stock Plan. The shares vest in three
- (1) substantially equal installments - the first immediately on December 15, 2014 and then on each of December 3, 2015 and December 3, 2016. As of the Transaction Date, 200 Shares have vested.
  - (2) This Form 5 is being filed to update the total amount of Deferred Compensation held as of 12/31/15 - 1,460.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.