

BENSON DONALD E
Form 4
January 27, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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, 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 *
BENSON DONALD E

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
First California Financial Group, Inc.
[FCAL]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
3027 TOWNSGATE ROAD, SUITE 300
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
01/25/2012

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

WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA 91361

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 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) | 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 Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock, \$0.01 par value | 01/25/2012 | | A | | 3,597 (1) | A | \$ 0 92,814 (2) | D |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | Code V (A) (D) | | Date Exercisable Expiration Date | Title Amount or Number of Shares | | |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BENSON DONALD E
3027 TOWNSGATE ROAD, SUITE 300 X
WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA 91361

Signatures

/s/ Romolo Santarosa,
Attorney-in-Fact 01/27/2012

__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) Represents restricted stock that will vest in one-third increments annually on each of January 25, 2013, 2014 and 2015.
- (2) Includes previously reported 3,969 shares of restricted stock that vest in one-third increments annually on each of March 16, 2012, 2013 and 2014 and 3,045 shares of restricted stock that vest in one-third increments annually on each of February 25, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

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