

Fernandez Richard F
 Form 4
 August 13, 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 *
 Fernandez Richard F

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 MERIDIAN INTERSTATE BANCORP INC [EBSB]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 08/10/2012

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

10 MERIDIAN STREET

(Street)

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

EAST BOSTON, MA 02128

(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)
				(A) or (D) Code V Amount Price			
Common Stock	08/10/2012		P	1,000 A \$ 15.53	3,000	I	By IRA
Common Stock					9,500	D	
Common Stock					2,000	I	By Spouse

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

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number.

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. Pri Deriv Secur (Instr	
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
						Code	V	(A)	(D)
Stock Options	\$ 8.99					10/27/2010	10/27/2019	Common Stock	5,000 <u>(1)</u>
Stock Options	\$ 9.5					10/13/2009	10/13/2018	Common Stock	15,000 <u>(2)</u>

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Fernandez Richard F 10 MERIDIAN STREET EAST BOSTON, MA 02128		X		

Signatures

/s/ Edward A. Quint, Pursuant to Power of Attorney
 **Signature of Reporting Person
 08/13/2012
 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) Stock options vest at a rate of 20% per year commencing on October 27, 2010.
- (2) Stock options vest at a rate of 20% per year commencing on October 13, 2009.

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.