

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.
 Form 4
 July 03, 2014

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 *
FREYDBERG RONALD A

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O MFA FINANCIAL, INC., 350
 PARK AVENUE, 20TH FLOOR

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10022

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

MFA FINANCIAL, INC. [MFA]

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

07/02/2014

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

Executive Vice President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

___X___ 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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|-----|-------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Code | V | Amount | (D) | Price |

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

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.

SEC 1474
 (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 | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of Derivative Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|----------|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|----------|

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| (Instr. 3) | Price of Derivative Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | (Instr.) | | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------|---|----------|-----|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--|----|
| | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | |
| Phantom Shares | <u>(1)</u> | 07/02/2014 | A | | 3,334 | | <u>(2)</u> | <u>(2)</u> | Common Share | 3,334 | \$ |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| FREYDBERG RONALD A C/O MFA FINANCIAL, INC. 350 PARK AVENUE, 20TH FLOOR NEW YORK,, NY 10022 | | | Executive Vice President | |

Signatures

/s/Ronald A. Freydberg 07/03/2014

**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) Each phantom share represents the right to receive one share of MFA Financial, Inc. common stock.
 - (2) One-third of these phantom shares are scheduled to vest, subject to forfeiture, on each of July 2, 2015, 2016 and 2017, and thereafter will be settled in an equivalent number of shares of MFA common stock within 15 days of each respective vesting date.

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.