

JOHNSTON STEVEN J  
Form 4  
February 21, 2012

**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 \*  
JOHNSTON STEVEN J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
CINCINNATI FINANCIAL CORP  
[CINF]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
6200 SOUTH GILMORE RD  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
02/17/2012

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

FAIRFIELD, OH 45014-5141  
(City) (State) (Zip)

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

**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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                | (A)<br>or<br>(D)  | 22,006  | D  |                                   |

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)**

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| 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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)       | \$ 35.63   | 02/17/2012                           |  | A                              | 13,472  | 02/17/2013 <sup>(1)</sup> 02/17/2022                     | Common Stock  | 13,4                       |
| Restricted Stock Units                     | \$ 0   | 02/17/2012                           |  | A                              | 16,840  | <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(2)</sup>                            | Common Stock  | 16,8                       |
| Phantom Stock Shares                       | \$ 0   |                                      |  |                                |   | <sup>(3)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>                            | Common Stock  | 6,67                       |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                 |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer         | Other |
| JOHNSTON STEVEN J<br>6200 SOUTH GILMORE RD<br>FAIRFIELD, OH 45014-5141 | X             |           | President & CEO |       |

## Signatures

|                                 |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Steven J Johnston               | 02/21/2012 |
| **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) The option vests in three annual installments beginning on the first anniversary of the date of grant.
- (2) The restricted stock units vest March 1, 2015 as set forth in the grant agreement, if performance goals are met. The number of restricted stock units shown is the maximum number of such units that may vest.
- (3) The reported phantom stock units were acquired under the company's top hat savings plan, an "Excess Benefits Plan" within the meaning of Rule 16b-3(b)(2), and are to be settled upon the reporting person's retirement or other termination of service. The reporting person may transfer the value of his phantom stock units into an alternative investment selection within the plan.

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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