

Rankin Norman John
 Form 4
 March 08, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
 Rankin Norman John

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 BIG LOTS INC [BIG]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 300 PHILLIPI ROAD
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 03/06/2012

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 Senior Vice President

COLUMBUS, OH 43228

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 Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4) | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--------|---|-------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | | | | |
| Common Stock | 03/06/2012 | | M | V | 10,800 | A | \$ 12.66 | 43,300 | D | |
| Common Stock | 03/06/2012 | | S | | 21,300 | D | \$ 44.37 | 22,000 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 1,442 | I | By 401(k) Plan ⁽²⁾ |

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

SEC 1474 (9-02)

displays a currently valid OMB control 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) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Stock Purchase Option | \$ 12.66 | 03/06/2012 | | M | 10,800 | 02/24/2010 ⁽³⁾ 02/24/2013 | Common Stock | 10,800 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships |
|---|--|
| Rankin Norman John 300 PHILLIPI ROAD COLUMBUS, OH 43228 | Director 10% Owner Officer Senior Vice President Other |

Signatures

Joseph Y. Heuer, Attorney-in-fact for Norman John Rankin
03/08/2012

__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 value represents the weighted average sale price for the transactions reported on the corresponding line. The actual sales prices for the transactions reported on the corresponding line ranged from \$44.21 to \$44.45. The reporting person undertakes to provide (upon request by the SEC, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer) full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.
 - (2) Common stock held under the Big Lots Savings Plan ("401(k) Plan"). This information is based on a 401(k) Plan report dated March 6, 2012.
 - (3) The date upon which the Stock Purchase Option became fully exercisable.

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.