

OLEKSAK MICHAEL J
 Form 4
 February 26, 2009

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 *
OLEKSAK MICHAEL J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
BERKSHIRE HILLS BANCORP INC [BHLB]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 24 NORTH STREET
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 02/24/2009

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 VP of Commercial Banking

PITTSFIELD, MA 01201

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 (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	02/24/2009		F	159 D \$ 21.74	2,925 ⁽⁶⁾	D	
Common Stock					1,594	I	By Stock Award IV ⁽⁴⁾
Common Stock					1,276	I	By Stock Award V ⁽⁵⁾
Common Stock					0 ⁽⁶⁾	I	By Stock Award ⁽¹⁾
					1,780	I	

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 Awards granted pursuant to the Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. 2003 Equity Compensation Plan vest in three equal annual installments commencing on February 24, 2007.
- (2) Stock Awards granted pursuant to the Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. 2001 Stock-Based Incentive Plan vest in five equal annual installments commencing on January 30, 2008.
- (3) Stock Awards granted pursuant to the Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. 2003 Equity Compensation Plan vest in three equal annual installments commencing on January 30, 2009.
- (4) Stock Awards granted pursuant to the Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. 2008 Equity Compensation Plan vest in three equal annual installments commencing on January 30, 2010.
- (5) Stock Awards granted pursuant to the Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. 2008 Equity Compensation Plan vest on January 30, 2010.
- (6) Since the reporting person's last report 500 shares previously held through Stock Award have vested and are now owned directly.

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.