

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.
Form 4
January 05, 2016

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 *
Knutson Craig L

(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)
12/31/2015

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
President and COO

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)
				Code V Amount (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	12/31/2015		F ⁽¹⁾	4,222 D \$ 6.6	463,027	D	
Common Stock	01/04/2016		M ⁽²⁾	54,500 A \$ 0 ⁽³⁾	517,527	D	
Common Stock	01/04/2016		M ⁽²⁾	27,250 A \$ 0 ⁽³⁾	544,777	D	
Common Stock	01/04/2016		F ⁽⁴⁾	28,303 D \$ 6.75	516,474	D	

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

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(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 (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)		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
						Code	V	(A)	(D)
Phantom Shares	(S)	01/04/2016		M ⁽⁵⁾	54,500	01/04/2016	01/04/2016	Common Stock	54,500
Phantom Shares	(S)	01/04/2016		M ⁽⁵⁾	27,250	01/04/2016	01/04/2016	Common Stock	27,250

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Knutson Craig L C/O MFA FINANCIAL, INC. 350 PARK AVENUE, 20TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10022			President and COO	

Signatures

/s/ Craig L. Knutson 01/05/2016

**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 reported disposition represents the surrender of shares to satisfy tax obligations arising from the vesting of restricted stock previously granted to the Reporting Person.
- (2) Shares acquired pursuant to the settlement of restricted stock units (i.e., phantom stock) granted to the Reporting Person in December 2010.
- (3) Each phantom share is the economic equivalent of one share of common stock of MFA Financial, Inc. Each phantom share was settled in one share of common stock of MFA Financial, Inc.

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- (4) The reported disposition represents the surrender of shares to satisfy tax obligations arising from the settlement of phantom shares described in Note 2 above.

- Settlement of time-based and performance-based phantom shares granted to the Reporting Person in December 2010. Each phantom share
- (5) is the economic equivalent of one share of common stock of MFA Financial, Inc. Each phantom share was settled in one share of common stock of MFA Financial, Inc.

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.