

Burke Joseph J
 Form 4
 February 17, 2012

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 *
 Burke Joseph J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 OCEANFIRST FINANCIAL CORP
 [OCFC]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 975 HOOPER AVENUE
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 02/15/2012

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

TOMS RIVER, NJ 08754
 (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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | |
| Common Stock | 02/15/2012 | | A | 681 | A \$ 0 | 12,855 | D (1) |

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

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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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 13.83 | 02/15/2012 | | A | 3,500 | 02/15/2013 02/15/2022 | common stock | 3,500 |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 23.475 | | | | | 02/15/2007 02/15/2016 | Common Stock | 3,000 |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 22.17 | | | | | 02/21/2008 02/21/2017 | Common Stock | 2,250 |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 16.81 | | | | | 02/20/2009 02/20/2018 | Common Stock | 2,363 |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 12.28 | | | | | 02/18/2010 02/18/2019 | Common Stock | 2,363 |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 10 | | | | | 02/17/2011 02/17/2020 | Common Stock | 3,310 |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 13.87 | | | | | 02/18/2012 02/18/2021 | Common Stock | 3,500 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| | | | | |

Burke Joseph J
975 HOOPER AVENUE
TOMS RIVER, NJ 08754

X

Signatures

/s/ Steven J. Tsimbinos, Power of
Attorney

02/17/2012

__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) Restricted shares awarded in five equal annual installments beginning on March 1, 2013. Total includes other unvested restricted stock.

(2) Options vest in five equal annual installments beginning on the date first exercisable.

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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