

Steele Gary
Form 4
March 27, 2018

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 *
Steele Gary

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O PROOFPOINT, INC., 892
ROSS DRIVE

(Street)

SUNNYVALE, CA 94089

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
PROOFPOINT INC [PFPT]

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

03/24/2018

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)

Chief Executive Officer

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 | 03/24/2018 | | M ⁽¹⁾ | | 7,250 | A | \$ 0 |
| Common Stock | 03/24/2018 | | M ⁽²⁾ | | 7,250 | A | \$ 0 |
| Common Stock | 03/24/2018 | | F ⁽³⁾ | | 7,190 | D | \$ 115.75 |

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

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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) | 8. Pr Deri Secu (Inst | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Restricted Stock Units | \$ 0 ⁽⁴⁾ | 03/24/2018 | | M ⁽¹⁾ | 7,250 | <u>(5)</u> | <u>(5)</u> | Common Stock | 7,250 |
| Restricted Stock Units | \$ 0 ⁽⁴⁾ | 03/24/2018 | | M ⁽²⁾ | 7,250 | <u>(6)</u> | <u>(6)</u> | Common Stock | 7,250 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Steele Gary C/O PROOFPOINT, INC. 892 ROSS DRIVE SUNNYVALE, CA 94089 | X | | Chief Executive Officer | |

Signatures

/s/ Gary Steele by Michael Yang,
Attorney-in-Fact

03/27/2018

__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) Vesting of restricted stock units ("RSUs") earned by the Reporting Person on June 21, 2016 as a result of the Reporting Person having met certain performance criteria.
- (2) Vesting of RSUs earned by the Reporting Person on May 1, 2017 as a result of the Reporting Person having met certain performance criteria.
- (3) Exempt transaction pursuant to Section 16b-3(e) - payment of exercise price or tax liability by delivering or withholding securities incident to the receipt, exercise or vesting of a security issued in accordance with Rule 16b-3. All of the shares reported as disposed of in

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this Form 4 were relinquished by the Reporting Person and cancelled by the Issuer in exchange for the Issuer's agreement to pay federal and state tax withholding obligations of the Reporting Person resulting from the vesting of RSUs. The Reporting Person did not sell or otherwise dispose of any of the shares reported on this Form 4 for any reason other than to cover required taxes.

- (4) Each RSU represents a contingent right to receive 1 share of the Issuer's Common Stock upon settlement for no consideration.

The RSUs vest as to 1/4th of the total number of shares on June 21, 2016 and thereafter will vest as to 1/4th of the total number of shares in equal annual installments beginning on March 24, 2017. Shares of the Issuer's common stock will be delivered to the Reporting Person following vesting.

- (6) The RSUs vest as to 1/2 of the total number of shares on May 1, 2017 and thereafter will vest as to 1/4th of the total number of shares in equal annual installments beginning on March 24, 2018. Shares of the Issuer's common stock will be delivered to the Reporting Person following vesting.

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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