

BALLESTER ALEJANDRO M
 Form 4
 May 25, 2012

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 *
BALLESTER ALEJANDRO M

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
POPULAR INC [BPOP]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 P.O. BOX 364548
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 05/24/2012

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

SAN JUAN, PR 00936-4548
 (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)			
			Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price			
Common Stock Par Value \$0.01 per share	05/24/2012	05/24/2012	J ⁽¹⁾		21,605	A	\$ 0	163,071	D	
Common Stock Par Value \$0.01 per share								20,000	I	By wife
Common Stock Par Value \$0.01 per share								4,657	I	By daughter

Common Stock Par Value \$0.01 per share	2,733	I	By son
Common Stock Par Value \$0.01 per share	4,647	I	By daughter

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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Benef Own Follo Repor Trans (Instr
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
						Code	V (A) (D)		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BALLESTER ALEJANDRO M P.O. BOX 364548 SAN JUAN, PR 00936-4548		X		

Signatures

Marie Reyes-Rodriguez, 05/25/2012
Attorney-in-fact

**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) Award of Restricted Stock pursuant to Popular, Inc.'s 2004 Omnibus Incentive Plan. The restriction of such restricted stock award lapses upon the retirement of the director.

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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