

STENEHJEM STEPHEN  
 Form 4  
 February 21, 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 \*  
 STENEHJEM STEPHEN

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 INVESTORS REAL ESTATE TRUST [IRET]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 1400 31ST AVENUE SW, SUITE 60  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 02/16/2012

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

MINOT, ND 58701

(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 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)	Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4. Transaction	5. Number of Derivative	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities
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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)				
			Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
UPREIT Units <sup>(1)</sup>	<sup>(2)</sup>	02/16/2012	A		137,164		<sup>(1)</sup>	<sup>(2)</sup>	Common Shares of Beneficial Interest	137,164 <sup>(1)</sup> <sup>(2)</sup>

### Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
STENEHJEM STEPHEN 1400 31ST AVENUE SW, SUITE 60 MINOT, ND 58701		X		

### Signatures

Lindsey Knoop Anderson, Attorney-in-Fact	02/21/2012
<sup>(1)</sup> 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).
- Limited partnership units in IRET Properties, a North Dakota Limited Partnership, of which the issuer is the general partner. The UPREIT Units are redeemable on the second anniversary of the date of their acquisition for an equal number of the issuer's common shares, or, at the election of the issuer, cash based on the market value of an equal number of the issuer's common shares. The UPREIT units were received in exchange for the indirect contribution to IRET Properties of a real estate property. The value of the UPREIT units was \$7.65 as of the acquisition date, calculated in accordance with a formula established in a Contribution Agreement dated effective January 31, 2012.
- (1) UPREIT units are convertible to common shares of the issuer on a one-to-one basis, or cash, at the election of the issuer. UPREIT units have no expiration date.
  - (2) The reporting person holds, directly or indirectly, an ownership interest in this entity. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

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.