

GELLERSTEDT LAWRENCE L III

Form 4

February 21, 2012

**FORM 4****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

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

## OMB APPROVAL

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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
GELLERSTEDT LAWRENCE L III

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
COUSINS PROPERTIES INC  
[CUZ]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
191 PEACHTREE STREET, SUITE  
500

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

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
President & CEO

(Street)  
ATLANTA, GA 30303

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting  
Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	02/16/2012		M <sup>(2)</sup>	3,729 A	\$ 7.4 413,897 <sup>(3)</sup>	D	
Common Stock	02/16/2012		D	3,729 D	\$ 7.4 410,168 <sup>(3)</sup>	D	
Common Stock					1,665	I	By Profit Sharing Plan
Common Stock					50	I	By Spouse
Common Stock					500	I	By Irrevocable

Common Stock	1,000	I	Trust  By Irrevocable Trust
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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)

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
				Code V (A) (D)		Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title	
Phantom Stock	<u>(1)</u>	02/16/2012		M <u>(2)</u>	3,729	02/16/2010 02/16/2013	Common Stock	3,729

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
GELLERSTEDT LAWRENCE L III 191 PEACHTREE STREET SUITE 500 ATLANTA, GA 30303	Director 10% Owner Officer Other  President & CEO

## Signatures

/s/ Lawrence L.  
Gellerstedt III 02/21/2012

\_\_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).

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Award of restricted stock units under Cousins Properties Incorporated (CPI) 2005 Restricted Stock Unit Plan. Each unit represents a right to receive a payment in cash equal to the average of the closing price of CPI's common stock on each trading day during the 30 day period ending on the date payment is due under the plan. These units will vest 25% per year on each anniversary date of the grant, with units being 100% vested in year 4 of the grant term. Unforfeited shares held prior to vesting will earn dividends paid annually but will not have shareholder rights. All unvested shares will forfeit upon termination of employment.

- (1)
- (2) Restricted stock units were granted under the Cousins Properties Incorporated 2005 Restricted Stock Unit Plan (the 2005 RSU Plan) and have vested as to 25% of the total units granted. As required under the 2005 RSU Plan, the vested units were settled for cash from CPI. Each restricted stock unit is the economic equivalent of one share of CPI common stock.

- (3) Includes 318,290 restricted stock awarded under the Cousins Properties Incorporated (CPI) 1999 and 2009 Incentive Stock Plans. While the shares are being held prior to vesting, the reporting person will have the right to receive all cash dividends and to vote the restricted shares. All unvested shares will forfeit upon termination of employment.

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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