

ALEXANDER JOHN E
 Form 4
 April 11, 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 *
 ALEXANDER JOHN E

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 TOMPKINS FINANCIAL CORP
 [TMP]

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 TOMPKINS FINANCIAL CORPORATION, PO BOX 460
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 04/09/2012

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

ITHACA, NY 14851

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

(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 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.

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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	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4. Transaction of	5. Number	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	8. Price of Derivative
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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)	Security (Instr. 5)				
			Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Phantom Stock	(1)	02/15/2012	L	V	75	(2)	(1)	(1)	Common Stock	75	\$ 41.0
Phantom Stock	(1)	04/09/2012	P		204	(1)	(1)	(1)	Common Stock	204	\$ 39.4

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ALEXANDER JOHN E TOMPKINS FINANCIAL CORPORATION PO BOX 460 ITHACA, NY 14851			X	

Signatures

/s/John E.
Alexander
Date: 04/10/2012

**Signature of Reporting Person

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).
- Each share of phantom stock is the economic equivalent of one share of common stock. Phantom stock represents deferred stock compensation under the Amended and Restated Retainer Plan for Eligible Directors of Tompkins Financial Corporation and its Wholly-Owned Subsidiaries. These shares are held in a rabbi trust pending distribution upon the occurrence of certain events specified in the Plan. The reporting person has no voting or investment power over the shares prior to such distribution.
- (1) Wholly-Owned Subsidiaries. These shares are held in a rabbi trust pending distribution upon the occurrence of certain events specified in the Plan. The reporting person has no voting or investment power over the shares prior to such distribution.
 - (2) Shares acquired through reinvestment of quarterly cash dividends.

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.