#### HILTON STEVEN J

Form 4

September 04, 2012

### FORM 4

### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

**OMB APPROVAL** OMB

Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

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Form 5 obligations may continue.

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

| 1. Name and Ad<br>HILTON ST     | ^                       | orting Person * | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer                                    |  |  |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|--|---|--|--|
|                                 |                         |                 | Meritage Homes CORP [MTH]                          | (Check all applicable)  |  |  |
| (Last)                          | (Last) (First) (Middle) |                 | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction                    |   |  |  |
|                                 |                         |                 | (Month/Day/Year)                                   | Director 10% Owner  |  |  |
| 17851 N. 85TH STREET, SUITE 300 |                         |                 | 08/31/2012   | _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify  |  |  |
|                                 |                         |                 |  | below) below) Chief Executive Officer   |  |  |
|                                 | (Street)                |                 | 4. If Amendment, Date Original                     | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check   |  |  |
|                                 |                         |                 | Filed(Month/Day/Year)                              | Applicable Line)  |  |  |
| SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85255            |                         |                 |  | _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |  |  |
| (City)                          | (State)                 | (Zip)           | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acc            | nuired Disposed of or Reneficially Owner  |  |  |

| (City)                               | (State)                                 | (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned |  |        |                  |  |  |   |                  |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|--------|------------------|--|--|---|------------------|
| 1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8)  | 4. Securit<br>or(A) or Dis<br>(Instr. 3, | sposed | of (D)           | Beneficially For<br>Owned (D)<br>Following Ind | Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or            | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |                  |
|                                      |   |  | Code V                                   | Amount | (A)<br>or<br>(D) | Price  | Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |   |                  |
| MTH<br>Common<br>Stock               | 08/31/2012                              | 08/31/2012   | M  | 64,000 | A                | \$<br>13.69                                    | 1,855,361                                      | I   | HELD IN<br>TRUST |
| MTH<br>Common<br>Stock               | 08/31/2012                              | 08/31/2012   | S  | 64,000 | D                | \$<br>37.16                                    | 1,791,361 (1)                                  | I   | HELD IN<br>TRUST |
| MTH<br>Common<br>Stock               |   |  |  |        |                  |  | 52,500 (2)                                     | D   |                  |

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<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transactic<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | onDerivative |        | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) |                    | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |                                     |
|---|---|---|---|--|--------------|--------|--|--------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
|   |   |   |   | Code V                                 | (A)          | (D)    | Date<br>Exercisable                                      | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of Shares |
| MTH<br>Common<br>Stock                              | \$ 13.69  | 08/31/2012                              |   | M                                      |              | 4,003  | 01/02/2009   | 01/02/2015         | MTH<br>Common<br>Shares                                       | 4,003                               |
| MTH<br>Common<br>Stock                              | \$ 13.69  | 08/31/2012                              |   | M                                      |              | 19,999 | 01/02/2010   | 01/02/2015         | MTH<br>Common<br>Shares                                       | 19,999                              |
| MTH<br>Common<br>Stock                              | \$ 13.69  | 08/31/2012                              |   | M                                      |              | 19,999 | 01/02/2011   | 01/02/2015         | MTH<br>Common<br>Shares                                       | 19,999                              |
| MTH<br>Common<br>Stock                              | \$ 13.69  | 08/31/2012                              |   | M                                      |              | 19,999 | 01/02/2012   | 01/02/2015         | MTH<br>Common<br>Shares                                       | 19,999                              |

Relationships

# **Reporting Owners**

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   |              |           | •                             |       |
|--|--------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|
| • 9  | Director     | 10% Owner | Officer                       | Other |
| HILTON STEVEN J<br>17851 N. 85TH STREET<br>SUITE 300<br>SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85255 |              |           | Chief<br>Executive<br>Officer |       |
| Signatures   |              |           |                               |       |
| /s/ Hilla Sferruzza, attorney-in-factiliton                                  | ct for Steve | n J.      | 09/04/2012                    |       |
| **Signature of Reporting Per   | rson         |           | Date                          |       |

Reporting Owners 2

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## **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) Balance reflects all other holdings, including restricted shares that have previously vested.
- (2) Balance represents restricted shares not vested but does not include 60,000 shares of restricted stock with vesting contingent upon the achievement of pre-specified performance targets.

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.