

Sanders James W Jr
 Form 4
 May 07, 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 *
 Sanders James W Jr

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 FREDS INC [FRED]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 4300 NEW GETWELL ROAD
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 05/03/2012

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

MEMPHIS, TN 38118

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 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 (A) or (D) Price		
Class A Common Stock	05/03/2012 ⁽¹⁾		J ⁽¹⁾		411 ⁽¹⁾ A \$ 0 3,739 ⁽³⁾	D	
Class A Common Stock	05/03/2012 ⁽²⁾		J ⁽²⁾		374 ⁽²⁾ A \$ 0 3,739 ⁽³⁾	D	
Class A Common Stock	05/03/2012 ⁽²⁾		J ⁽²⁾		102 ⁽²⁾ A \$ 0 3,739 ⁽³⁾	D	

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.

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

Table with columns: 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. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 6)

Reporting Owners

Table with columns: Reporting Owner Name / Address, Relationships (Director, 10% Owner, Officer, Other). Entry: Sanders James W Jr, 4300 NEW GETWELL ROAD, MEMPHIS, TN 38118, VP.

Signatures

Anita Ryan by power of attorney, 05/07/2012. **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).
(1) Lapse of restriction on 1/4 of shares granted 05/03/2010.
(2) Lapse of restriction on 1/4 of shares granted 05/03/2011.
(3) Lapse of restrictions, does not increase number of shares beneficially owned.

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.