LaGreca Carl Form 3 February 03, 2009 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB APPROVAL FORM 3 Washington, D.C. 20549 OMB Number:

INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 <u>*</u> LaGreca Carl			2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year)	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol MERIDIAN INTERSTATE BANCORP INC [EBSB]					
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	01/27/2009	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)		
10 MERIDIAN STREET									
(Street)				(Check all applicable)			6. Individual or Joint/Group		
EAST BOST	°ON, MA	AÂ 02128		XDirector10% C OfficerOther (give title below) (specify below			Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - N	Non-Derivat	ive Securiti	es Bei	neficially Owned		
1.Title of Secur (Instr. 4)	ity		2. Amount o Beneficially (Instr. 4)		3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nat Owne (Instr.	•		
Common Sto	ock		0		D	Â			
Reminder: Repo owned directly of	-		ch class of securities benefic	ially S	EC 1473 (7-02)			
	inforn requir	nation conta red to respo	pond to the collection of ained in this form are not nd unless the form displ MB control number.	t					
Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)									

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of	5. Ownership Form of Derivative	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of	Derivative Security	Security: Direct (D) or Indirect	

3235-0104

January 31,

2005

0.5

Expires:

response...

Estimated average burden hours per

Shares

(I) (Instr. 5)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
LaGreca Carl 10 MERIDIAN STREET EAST BOSTON, MA 02128	ÂX	Â	Â	Â				
Signatures								
/s/ Edward A. Quint, Pursuant to Power of Attorney 02/03/200								
<u>**</u> Signature of Reporting Person	Date							
Explanation of Responses:								

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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).

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.