

COUSINS PROPERTIES INC
 Form 4
 December 11, 2008

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

OMB APPROVAL
 OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
 MURPHY JOEL T

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 3600
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/09/2008

____ Director
 Officer (give title below)
 ____ 10% Owner
 ____ Other (specify below)
 Executive Vice President

ATLANTA, GA 30303

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|---|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | | | |
| Common Stock | 12/09/2008 | | F ⁽⁵⁾ | V | 1,764 | D | \$ 12.63 | 41,968 ⁽³⁾ | D |
| Common Stock | 12/09/2008 | | M ⁽⁴⁾ | | 489 | A | \$ 0 ⁽⁴⁾ | 42,457 ⁽³⁾ | D |
| Common Stock | 12/09/2008 | | D | | 489 | D | \$ 12.63 | 41,968 ⁽³⁾ | D |
| Common Stock | 12/11/2008 | | M ⁽⁴⁾ | | 1,923 | A | \$ 0 ⁽⁴⁾ | 43,891 ⁽³⁾ | D |
| Common Stock | 12/11/2008 | | D | | 1,923 | D | \$ 11.17 | 41,968 ⁽⁴⁾ | D |

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| | | | |
|--------------|----------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Common Stock | 5,497 ⁽¹⁾ | I | In Self-directed Account |
|--------------|----------------------|---|--------------------------------|

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.

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) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| | | | | Code V (A) (D) | | Date Exercisable Expiration Date | Title | |
| Phantom Stock | ⁽⁴⁾ | 12/09/2008 | | M ⁽⁴⁾ | 489 | 12/09/2006 ⁽²⁾ 12/09/2009 | Common Stock | 489 |
| Phantom Stock | ⁽⁴⁾ | 12/11/2008 | | M ⁽⁴⁾ | 1,923 | 12/11/2007 ⁽²⁾ 12/11/2010 | Common Stock | 1,923 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships |
|--|----------------------------------|
| | Director 10% Owner Officer Other |
| MURPHY JOEL T 191 PEACHTREE STREET SUITE 3600 ATLANTA, GA 30303 | Executive Vice President |

Signatures

/s/ Joel T. Murphy
12/11/2008

**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) Represents the shares held in the Company's Profit Sharing Plan in a self-directed account.

Award of restricted stock units under the 2005 RSU Plan. Each unit represents a right to receive a payment in cash equal to the fair market value of one share of CPI's common stock as of 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. While the shares are being held prior to vesting, the reporting person will have the right to receive all cash dividends but will not have shareholder rights. All unvested shares will forfeit upon termination of employment.

(3) Includes 5,468 shares of restricted stock awarded under the CPI 1999 Incentive Stock Plan. These shares will vest 25% per year on each anniversary date of the grant, and CPI will hold these shares until such shares become vested. 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.

(4) 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.

(5) Shares withheld from the vesting of restricted stock to pay the reporting person's tax liability as permitted under the 1999 Incentive Stock Plan.

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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