

EQUITY RESIDENTIAL  
Form 5  
February 13, 2012

**FORM 5**

**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).  
Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

**ANNUAL 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**SPECTOR GERALD A**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**TWO NORTH RIVERSIDE PLAZA, SUITE 400**

(Street)

**CHICAGO, IL 60606**

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**EQUITY RESIDENTIAL [EQR]**

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)  
**12/31/2011**

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

Form Filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

**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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Common Shares Of Beneficial Interest | 09/07/2011                           | Â  | G                              | 3,538 D \$ 0  | 267,593.3163 (1)   | D  | Â   |
| Common Shares Of Beneficial Interest | 09/07/2011                           | Â  | G                              | 3,538 A \$ 0  | 71,132 (2)   | I  | Spouse  |
|                                      | Â                                    | Â  | Â                              | Â Â Â   | 3,472 (3)  | I  | Children  |

Common Shares Of Beneficial Interest

Common Shares Of Beneficial Interest

Common Shares Of Beneficial Interest

|                       |   |              |
|-----------------------|---|--------------|
| 25,015 <sup>(4)</sup> | I | Family Trust |
| 9,581 <sup>(5)</sup>  | I | SERP 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 2270 (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) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. of D Se O E Is Fi (I |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|-------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  |                                | (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable Expiration Date                         | Title Amount or Number of Shares                              |  |                         |

## Reporting Owners

**Reporting Owner Name / Address**

**Relationships**

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SPECTOR GERALD A  
TWO NORTH RIVERSIDE PLAZA, SUITE 400  
CHICAGO, IL 60606

X                Vice Chairman

## Signatures

s/ By: Jane Matz,      02/13/2012  
Attorney-in-fact

        \*\*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) Direct total includes restricted shares of the Company scheduled to vest in the future.
- (2) Represents shares beneficially owned by Mr. Spector's spouse. Mr. Spector disclaims beneficial ownership of said shares except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
- (3) Represents shares beneficially owned by Mr. Spector as custodian for his minor children. Mr. Spector disclaims beneficial ownership of said shares.
- (4) Represents shares held by the Spector Family Dynasty Trust (the "SFDT"). Mr. Spector is the sole trustee of the SFDT and, as such, may be deemed the beneficial owner of the shares reported herein.
- (5) Represents shares owned by Principal Trust Company, as Trustee of the Equity Residential Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan, for the benefit of the reporting person.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.