

Bankwell Financial Group, Inc.  
 Form 4  
 November 24, 2015

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

OMB APPROVAL  
 OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2015  
 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 \*  
 Bauer George P

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 Bankwell Financial Group, Inc.  
 [BWFG]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 11/23/2015

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

C/O BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC., 220 ELM STREET

(Street)

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

NEW CANAAN, CT 06840

(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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Price   |  |  |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 286,780   | D  |  |
| Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup>     |                                      |  |                                |   | 400   | D  |  |
| Common Stock <sup>(2)</sup>     |                                      |  |                                |   | 666   | D  |  |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 111,585   | I  | Held in Foundation                         |
| Common Stock <sup>(3)</sup>     |                                      |  |                                |   | 55,556  | I  | Held in Foundation                         |

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|                                |            |   |        |   |       |        |   |                       |
|--------------------------------|------------|---|--------|---|-------|--------|---|-----------------------|
| Common<br>Stock <sup>(3)</sup> | 11/23/2015 | M | 17,894 | A | \$ 14 | 17,894 | I | Held in<br>Foundation |
|--------------------------------|------------|---|--------|---|-------|--------|---|-----------------------|

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<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. 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. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired (A)<br>or Disposed of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of<br>Underlying Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of Shares |                                     |
|---|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|   |  |   |   | Code                                 | V (A) (D)  | Date<br>Exercisable  | Expiration<br>Date  | Title                               | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of Shares |
| Warrants<br><u>(3)</u>                              | \$ 14  | 11/23/2015                              |   | M                                    | 17,894   | 10/05/2015   | 12/05/2015  | Common<br>Stock                     | 17,894                              |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |         |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Bauer George P<br>C/O BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.<br>220 ELM STREET<br>NEW CANAAN, CT 06840 | X             |           |         |       |

## Signatures

/s/ George P. Bauer by  
POA 11/24/2015

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) 800 shares of restricted stock granted pursuant to the 2012 BNC Financial Group, Inc. Stock Plan and will vest in four equal annual installments of 25%, with the first installment to vest on November 5, 2014 and an additional 25% to vest on each annual anniversary of the grant date thereafter. As of today, 400 Shares have vested.
  - (2) 1,000 shares of restricted stock granted pursuant to the 2012 Bankwell Financial Group, Inc. Stock Plan. The shares vest in three substantially equal installments - the first immediately on December 15, 2014 and then on each of December 3, 2015 and December 3,

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2016. As of today, 334 Shares have vested.

- (3) All 55,556 Shares were Units, upon exercise of the Warrants on November 23, 2015, the Units became Common Stock. Each Unit consisted of one share of Common Stock and an attached Warrant which gives the Reporting Person the right to purchase .3221 shares of the Company's Common Stock at \$14.00 per share once exercised. The exercise period for the Warrants is currently set for October 5, 2015 through December 5, 2015. The associated Common Stock is disclosed in Table I, and the associated Warrants in Table II.

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.