

PALMER JONATHAN J
 Form 4
 May 08, 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 *
 PALMER JONATHAN J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 HEARTLAND PAYMENT SYSTEMS INC [HPY]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

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

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

C/O HEARTLAND PAYMENT SYSTEMS, INC., 90 NASSAU 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

PRINCETON, NJ 08542

(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 |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share ⁽¹⁾ | 05/03/2012 | | J ⁽¹⁾ | | 3,198 | A | \$ 42,519 ⁽²⁾ |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share | 05/03/2012 | | F ⁽³⁾ | | 800 | D | \$ 32.42 41,719 |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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(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 or Value of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|---|----------------------------|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Restricted Stock Units | (4) | 05/04/2012 | | A | 2,426 | (5) | (5) | Common Stock | 2,426 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| PALMER JONATHAN J C/O HEARTLAND PAYMENT SYSTEMS, INC. 90 NASSAU STREET PRINCETON, NJ 08542 | X | | | |

Signatures

/s/ Jonathan J. Palmer 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) Shares acquired upon vesting of restricted stock units granted to the Reporting Person on December 21, 2011 and reported on a Form 4 filed on December 22, 2011.
- (2) The reporting person reported all restricted stock units granted to the reporting person on December 21, 2011 in Table I of the Form 4 filed on December 22, 2011. As such, no adjustment to the reporting person's beneficial ownership needs to be made to reflect this

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vesting event.

- (3) Shares were withheld from the reporting person, in an exempt transaction under Rule 16b-3, solely to satisfy tax obligations arising from the vesting of the restricted stock described in this Form 4.
- (4) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Heartland Payment Systems, Inc.'s (the "Issuer") Common Stock.

The restricted stock units vest upon the earlier of: (i) May 4, 2013 and (ii) the first business day preceding the date of the Issuer's 2013

- (5) annual meeting of stockholders, so long as the reporting person remains in Continuous Service (as such term is defined in the Issuer's 2008 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended and restated).

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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