CARLINI BARBARA D

Form 4

February 22, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287 Number: January 31,

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and A CARLINI E	Symbol	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol DEAN FOODS CO [DF]				5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer				
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	(First) (M TH HASKELL SUITE 3400	(Month/	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/17/2012			(Check all applicable) Director 10% OwnerX_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) Senior Vice President and				
			If Amendment, Date Original led(Month/Day/Year)				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ 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							ly Owned			
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired on(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or		5. Amount of Securities Form: Direct Indirect Beneficially (D) or Beneficially (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)				
Common Stock	02/18/2012		Code V M	6,902 (1)	A £ 11		14,831	D		
Common Stock	02/18/2012		F	2,048 (1)	D	\$ 12.07	12,783	D		

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

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4. Transactio	5. Number of orDerivative		6. Date Exercisable Expiration Date	le and	7. Title and Underlying
Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		(Month/Day/Year)		(Instr. 3 ar
				Code V	(A) ((D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title
Non-Qualified StockOption (right to buy)	\$ 12.07	02/17/2012		A	39,460		02/17/2013(2)	02/17/2022	Commo Stock
Restricted Stock Units	\$ 0	02/17/2012		A	27,701		02/17/2013(3)	02/17/2022	Common Stock
Restricted Stock Units (DU005628)	\$ 0	02/18/2012		M		902	02/18/2012(3)	02/18/2021	Commo

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

CARLINI BARBARA D 2711 NORTH HASKELL AVENUE SUITE 3400 DALLAS, TX 75204

Senior Vice President and

Signatures

Katherine K. Connell, Attorney-in-Fact

02/22/2012

**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).
- The reporting person received a total of 6,902 shares of Common Stock of the Issuer pursuant to the vesting provisions in the award of (1) restricted stock units. A total of 2,048 shares were surrendered to satisfy tax obligations of the reporting person, resulting in the issuance of a total of 4,854 net shares of Common Stock.
- (2) The shares of Common Stock subject to the Option vest annually, on a pro rata basis, over a three year period beginning on the first anniversary of the grant date, subject to the terms and conditions of the award agreement.
- The reporting person has received an award of restricted stock units, which is the right to receive shares of Common Stock of the Issuer in (3) the future, subject to the terms and conditions of the award agreement. The units vest annually, on a pro rata basis, over a three year period beginning on the first anniversary of the grant date.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Reporting Owners 2

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