

BARTON RICHARD B

Form 4

December 17, 2004

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

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
BARTON RICHARD B

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O BANNER CORP, PO BOX 907

(Street)

WALLA WALLA, WA 99362

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol
BANNER CORP [BANR]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/16/2004

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

Executive VP, Banner Bank

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
____X____ 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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock, \$.01 par value per share	12/16/2004		A	500 ⁽¹⁾	A \$ 31.71 ⁽²⁾	2,820 ⁽³⁾	D

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
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(9-02)

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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 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 (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)			
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Option to Buy Common Stock	\$ 31.71	12/16/2004		A		2,000		12/16/2005 ⁽⁴⁾	12/16/2014	Common Stock	2,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BARTON RICHARD B
C/O BANNER CORP
PO BOX 907
WALLA WALLA, WA 99362

Executive VP, Banner Bank

Signatures

/s/ Richard B.
Barton

12/17/2004

**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) Award pursuant to 1996 Management Recognition and Development Plan; shares vest at 20% each year beginning 12/16/05.

(2) Market price on December 16, 2004.

(3) Includes direct ownership of 320 shares through Employee Stock Ownership Plan.

(4) Options awarded pursuant to 2001 Stock Option Plan; options are exercisable at rate of 20% each year beginning 12/16/05.

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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