

BARNET WILLIAM III
Form 4
April 16, 2003

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

— Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

Filed By
Romeo and Dye's
Section 16 Filer
www.section16.net

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* Barnet, III William (Last) (First) (Middle) | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FleetBoston Financial Corporation (FBF) | | | | 6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director — <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner — <input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) — <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|---|------------|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| The Barnet Company 507 E. St. John Street | | | 3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (voluntary) | | 4. Statement for Month/Day/Year 04/15/03 | | | | | |
| (Street) Spartanburg, SC 29320 | | | | | 5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | |
| (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 & 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transactions(s) (Instr. 3 & 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | | | |

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

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

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FORM 4 (continued) 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 & 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 & 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or | 11. Ownership Form of Underlying Security: (Instr. 10) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|-------------|---|---------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | Date Exer-cisable | Expira-tion | Title | Amount or Number of | | | | |

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| | | | | | | | Date | | Shares | | | Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--|------------------------|-------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Stock Units | 1-for-1 | 04/15/03 | | A⁽¹⁾ | 1,155.1791 | | (⁽²⁾) | Common Stock | 1,155.1791 | \$25.97 | 43,909.3344 | D |

Explanation of Responses:

(1) Annual award of FBF stock units under the Directors Deferred Compensation and Stock Unit Plan.

(2) Stock units are payable in shares of FBF common stock upon the reporting person's retirement or resignation from the Board of Directors.

By: /s/ **Martha R. Francis**

Martha R. Francis, Attorney-in-Fact

**Signature of Reporting Person

04/16/03

Date

**Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations.
See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

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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