

DeWyngaert Heidi
 Form 4
 February 16, 2018

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 DeWyngaert Heidi

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 02/15/2018

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 EVP & CLO

NEW CANAAN, CT 06840

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

(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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock	02/15/2018		M	4,000 A \$ 20.7	62,114	D <u>(1)</u> <u>(2)</u>	
Common Stock	02/15/2018		F	2,523 D \$ 32.8834 <u>(4)</u>	59,591 <u>(1)</u> <u>(2)</u> <u>(3)</u>	D	
Common Stock					2,520	D <u>(1)</u>	
Common Stock					1,988	D <u>(1)</u>	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

Table with columns: 1. Title of Derivative Security, 2. Conversion or Exercise Price, 3. Transaction Date, 3A. Deemed Execution Date, 4. Transaction Code, 5. Number of Derivative Securities, 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date, 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities, 8. Amount or Number of Shares. Includes entries for Stock Options with details on price, date, and shares.

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

DeWyngaert Heidi C/O BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. 220 ELM STREET NEW CANAAN, CT 06840

EVP & CLO

Signatures

/s/ Heidi

DeWyngaert

02/16/2018

**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)

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18,000 shares of Bankwell Financial Group, Inc. stock granted pursuant to the 2012 Bankwell Financial Group, Inc. Stock Plan. 6,300 of those shares are restricted stock that will vest in five equal annual installments of 20%, with the first installment to vest on December 1, 2015 and an additional 20% to vest on each annual anniversary of the vesting date thereafter. As of the Transaction Date, 3,780 Shares have fully vested. 3,978 of those shares are restricted stock that will vest in four equal annual installments of 25%, with the first installment to vest on December 1, 2016 and an additional 25% to vest on each annual anniversary of the vesting date thereafter. As of the Transaction Date, 1,990 Shares have fully vested. 7,722 of those shares are performance restricted stock and may vest when and if the performance goals are achieved, but in any event no later than December 1, 2019. As of the Transaction Date, all 7,722 Performance Shares have vested.

- (2) Of the Shares reported, 13,486 Shares are owned jointly with spouse.
- (3) On 2/15/18 - 2,523 shares were withheld and sold through the Company sponsored cashless stock exercise program, to cover the exercise cost for converting the stock options to common stock.
- (4) Range of reported sale price is \$32.85 - \$33.00. Reporting person agrees to provide individual transaction information to SEC upon request.
- (5) Stock Options granted pursuant to the 2007 Bank of New Canaan Stock Option Equity Award Plan, all of which are fully vested.

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.