

GARDING ED
Form 4
February 21, 2012

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 *
GARDING ED

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
FIRST INTERSTATE
BANCSYSTEM INC [FIBK]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
PO BOX 30918

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
02/17/2012

____ Director
 Officer (give title below) _____ 10% Owner
_____ Other (specify below)
Exec. Vice Pres. & COO

BILLINGS, MT 59116-0918

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Class A Common Stock | | | | (A) or (D) Price | | | By 401(k) Plan |
| Class A Common Stock | 02/17/2012 | | A | 8,384 (1) A \$ 0 | 101,318 | D | |

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

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SEC 1474
(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 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. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Stock Options | \$ 14.37 | 02/17/2012 | | A | 12,375 | (2) 02/17/2022 | Class A Common Stock | 12,375 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| GARDING ED PO BOX 30918 BILLINGS, MT 59116-0918 | | | Exec. Vice Pres. & COO | |

Signatures

/s/ TERRILL R. MOORE, Attorney in Fact for Reporting Person
Date: 02/21/2012

**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).

- Shares issued for no consideration pursuant to the Registrant's 2006 Equity Compensation Plan. Includes 3,594 time-based shares that in
- (1) three equal portions on the first, second and third annual anniversaries of February 17, 2012. Also includes 4,790 performance-based shares that vest on December 31, 2014 upon achievement of specified performance goals.
 - (2) Stock options issued for no consideration pursuant to the Registrant's 2006 Equity Compensation Plan. Stock options vest in three equal portions on the first, second and third annual anniversaries of February 17, 2012.

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.