

Ottinger Matthew  
 Form 3  
 December 19, 2012

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104  
 Expires: January 31, 2005  
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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 \*

Â Ottinger Matthew  
 (Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O MFA FINANCIAL,  
 INC.,Â 350 PARK AVENUE,  
 20TH FLOOR

(Street)

NEW YORK,Â NYÂ 10022

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement

(Month/Day/Year)  
 12/14/2012

3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 MFA FINANCIAL, INC. [MFA]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

5. 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 Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
COMMON STOCK, PAR VALUE \$0.01 PER SHARE	9,841	D	Â
8.5% Series A Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock	4,338	D	Â
COMMON STOCK, PAR VALUE \$0.01 PER SHARE	0	I	N/A
8.5% Series A Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock	0	I	N/A

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not**

