

Lynch Brian  
Form 4  
February 24, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
Lynch Brian

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
CARTERS INC [CRI]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
1170 PEACHTREE STREET, SUITE 900  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
02/22/2012

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
EVP Brand Leader

ATLANTA, GA 30309

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount (A) or (D) Price   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 02/22/2012                           |  | A                              |   | 4,000 (1) \$ 0 (2)  | D  | 46,073 (3)                        |
| Common Stock                    | 02/22/2012                           |  | A                              |   | 8,000 (4) \$ 0 (2)  | D  | 54,073 (3)                        |

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) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Purchase)  | \$ 42.61   | 02/22/2012                           |  | P                              | 4,000<br>(5)  | 02/22/2013 <sup>(5)</sup> 02/22/2022                     | Common Stock 4,000  |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                  |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer          | Other |
| Lynch Brian<br>1170 PEACHTREE STREET<br>SUITE 900<br>ATLANTA, GA 30309 |               |           | EVP Brand Leader |       |

## Signatures

/s/Brendan M. Gibbons, Attorney-in-Fact for Brian Lynch  
 \*\*Signature of Reporting Person  
 Date 02/24/2012

## 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) These restricted shares are subject to restrictions that lapse in four equal annual installments beginning one year from the grant date.
- (2) Granted at no cost to the reporting person.
- (3) Some of these shares are restricted shares that are subject to either time-vesting or performance-based restrictions.
- (4) These restricted shares cliff vest based upon the achievement of certain 2014 earnings targets.
- (5) These time-vesting options are exercisable in four equal annual installments beginning one year from the grant date.

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.