

FLEETBOSTON FINANCIAL CORP  
 Form 4  
 January 03, 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).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

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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

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 www.section16.net

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <b>May Thomas J.</b> (Last) (First) (Middle)			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>FleetBoston Financial Corporation (FBF)</b>				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)			
<b>NSTAR</b> <b>800 Boylston Street</b>			3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (voluntary)		4. Statement for Month/Day/Year <b>01/01/03</b>					
(Street) <b>Boston, MA 02199</b>					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)			<b>Table I Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned</b>							
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 Transaction(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. Nature of Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V			(A)	(D)				

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						Date Exer-cisable	Expira- tion Date		Amount or Number of Shares			Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)
<b>Stock Units</b>	<b>1-for-1</b>	<b>01/01/03</b>		<b>A</b>	<b>514.4033</b>	<u>(1)</u>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>Common Stock</b>	<b>514.4033</b>	<b>\$24.30</b>	<b>10,068.6000</b>	<b>D</b>

Explanation of Responses:

(1) Stock units accrued under the Directors Deferred Compensation and Stock Unit Plan. Amount of stock units is payable in FBF common stock upon the reporting person's retirement or resignation from the Board of Directors.

By: /s/ **Martha R. Francis** **01/03/03**  
**Martha R. Francis, Attorney-in-Fact** Date  
 \*\*Signature of Reporting Person

\*\*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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