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# FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

|   | Check this box if no longer subject to |
|---|--|
| ĺ | Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5           |
|   | obligations may continue. See          |
|   | Instruction 1(b).                      |

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

## OMB APPROVAL

| OMB Number: 3235-0287    |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Estimated average burden |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response:      | 0.5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|                                     | ss of Reporting Perso     |  | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>CARTERS INC</u> [ CRI ] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br>(Check all applicable)<br>Director 10% Owner  |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--|---|
| (Last)<br>1170 PEACHTI<br>SUITE 900 | 170 PEACHTREE STREET      |  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br>08/16/2011         | - Officer (give title X Other (specify below) Fmr EVP-Chief Supply Chai   |
| (Street)<br>ATLANTA<br>(City)       | GA 30309<br>(State) (Zip) |  | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)               | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable<br>Line)<br>X Form filed by One Reporting Person<br>Form filed by More than One Reporting<br>Person |

#### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.4. Securities Acquired (A) of<br>Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 at<br>at<br>(Instr. 3, 4 at<br>(Instr. 3, 4 at<br> |   |        | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Following | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership |   |            |
|---------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--------|---|---|---|---|------------|
|                                 |  |   | Code   | v | Amount | (A) or<br>(D)   | Price   | Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)      |   | (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock                    | 08/16/2011                                 |   | М  |   | 60,000 | A   | \$22  | 206,651   | D |            |
| Common Stock                    | 08/16/2011                                 |   | S  |   | 60,000 | D   | \$30.23(1)  | 146,651   | D |            |
| Common Stock                    | 08/16/2011                                 |   | М  |   | 20,000 | A   | \$14.18   | 166,651   | D |            |
| Common Stock                    | 08/16/2011                                 |   | S  |   | 20,000 | D   | \$30.23(1)  | 146,651   | D |            |
| Common Stock                    | 08/16/2011                                 |   | М  |   | 5,000  | A   | \$18.14   | 151,651   | D |            |
| Common Stock                    | 08/16/2011                                 |   | S  |   | 5,000  | D   | \$30.23(1)  | 146,651   | D |            |

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

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)   | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transa<br>Code (<br>8) |   | of     |     | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                    | 7. Title and Amount<br>of Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |  | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4) | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|--------|-----|--|--------------------|---|--|---|--|--|--|
|   |   |  |   | Code                         | v | (A)    | (D) | Date<br>Exercisable  | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |   |  |  |  |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Purchase) | \$22  | 08/16/2011                                 |   | М                            |   | 60,000 |     | (2)  | (2)                | Common<br>Stock   | 60,000                                 | \$ <mark>0</mark>                                   | 0  | D  |  |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Purchase) | \$14.18   | 08/16/2011                                 |   | М                            |   | 20,000 |     | (2)  | (2)                | Common<br>Stock   | 20,000                                 | \$0   | 10,000   | D  |  |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Purchase) | \$18.14   | 08/16/2011                                 |   | М                            |   | 5,000  |     | (2)  | (2)                | Common<br>Stock   | 5,000                                  | \$0   | 5,000  | D  |  |

Explanation of Responses:

1. This is a weighted average price. The shares were sold in multiple trade executions at prices ranging from \$29.84 to \$30.59, inclusive. Upon request by the Commission staff, the Issuer, or a security holder of the Issuer, the Reporting Person will provide full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.

2. All these options were exercisable as of the trade date.

**Remarks:** 

### Brendan M. Gibbons,

Attorney-in-Fact for Charles E. 08/18/2011 Whetzel, Jr.

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

 $^{\ast}$  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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.