

Northwest Bancshares, Inc.  
Form 4  
May 20, 2016

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 \*  
**SMELKO MICHAEL G**

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
  
100 LIBERTY STREET  
  
(Street)

WARREN, PA 16365

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**Northwest Bancshares, Inc. [NWBI]**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
**05/18/2016**

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Exec. V.P., Chief Credit Off.

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)			
			Code	V	Amount (D) or Price (A)					
Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Common Stock	05/18/2016	05/18/2016	A		5,850 (1)	A	\$ 14.51	62,046	D	
Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Common Stock								1,019	I	Wife's IRA
Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Common Stock								7,505.87 (3)	I	401-K

Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Common Stock

8,294.13 <sup>(4)</sup> I ESOP

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

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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)	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 14.15	05/18/2016	05/18/2016	A	12,480 <sup>(2)</sup>	05/18/2016 05/18/2026	Common Stock	12,480

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SMELKO MICHAEL G 100 LIBERTY STREET WARREN, PA 16365			Exec. V.P., Chief Credit Off.	

## Signatures

Michael G. Smelko  
Date: 05/20/2016  
\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

## 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)

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One tenth of this grant of RRP shares will vest each year beginning May 18, 2016 and on each May 18th thereafter through May 18, 2025.

- (2) One tenth of this grant of stock options will vest each year beginning May 18, 2016 and on each May 18th thereafter through May 18, 2025.
- (3) Reflects transaction that are not reportable pursuant to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- (4) Reflects transaction that are not reportable pursuant to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

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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