

HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES INC  
 Form 4  
 March 02, 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 \*  
**FRITSCH EDWARD J**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES INC [HIW]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)  
 Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
**President & CEO**

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**C/O HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES, INC., 3100 SMOKETREE COURT, SUITE 600**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**02/29/2016**

(Street)  
**RALEIGH, NC 27604**

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) |   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 02/29/2016                           | 02/29/2016   | A                              |   | 36,252  | A          | (1) 444,104   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 02/29/2016                           | 02/29/2016   | A                              |   | 2,016   | A          | (1) (2) 446,120   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 02/29/2016                           | 02/29/2016   | F                              |   | 10,385  | D          | (3) 435,735   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 03/01/2016                           | 03/01/2016   | F                              |   | 9,177   | D          | (3) 426,558   | D  |                                   |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   |            | 70  | I  |                                   |

Common  
Stock

By  
Children

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

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(9-02)

**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) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Stock Option (right to buy)                | \$ 43.55   | 02/29/2016                           | 02/29/2016   | A                              | 86,008  | <sup>(4)</sup> 02/28/2026                                | Common Stock  | 86,008                        |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                 |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer         | Other |
| FRITSCH EDWARD J<br>C/O HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES, INC.<br>3100 SMOKETREE COURT, SUITE 600<br>RALEIGH, NC 27604 | X             |           | President & CEO |       |

## Signatures

/s/Willis B. Howard Attorney-in-fact for Edward J. Fritsch  
Date: 03/02/2016

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## 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) Restricted stock is granted by the Company and not purchased by the reporting person.
- (2) Represents the number of shares earned under the Company's Long-Term Incentive Plan - Total Shareholder Return Plan because the Company achieved above target levels of performance relative to predetermined goals.

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- (3) In accordance with the terms of the initial restricted stock award and in connection with the vesting of the award, the reporting person tendered a portion of the restricted stock award to the issuer in satisfaction of his tax liabilities.
- (4) Options vest ratably over 4 years on March 1st of each year after 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.

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