ERNST BARRIE W Form 4

April 05, 2013

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **ERNST BARRIE W** Issuer Symbol UNITED FIRE GROUP INC (Check all applicable) [UFCS] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner _X__ Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) 118 SECOND AVENUE SE, P.O. 03/28/2013 VP/Chief Investment Officer BOX 73909 (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting **CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52407-3909**

(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 Acqui (A) or Disposed of (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or Amount (D) P		6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)				
Common Stock	03/28/2013	04/03/2013(1)	P(2) V(3)	\$	5.47 5,546 <u>(6)</u>	I	By 401(k) Account for Self				
Common Stock					435	I	By Issuer's Employee Stock Ownership Plan for self				
Common Stock					1,079	I	By spouse				

Common Stock

6,591 (7) D

9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr

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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. orNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		ate	7. Titl Amou Under Secur (Instr.	int of lying	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

ERNST BARRIE W 118 SECOND AVENUE SE P.O. BOX 73909 CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52407-3909

VP/Chief Investment Officer

Signatures

/s/ Barrie W. Ernst by Dianne M. Lyons, Attorney-in-Fact

04/05/2013

**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) The deemed execution date of this transaction is the settlement date as provided by the Issuer's 401(k)Plan trustee/administrator.
- (2) Shares acquired through payroll deduction and participation in the Issuer's 401(k) Plan.
- (3) This transaction qualifies as a non-discretionary transaction from a tax-qualified plan and is voluntarily reported on Form 4.

Reporting Owners 2

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- (4) Represents the approximate number of shares (excluding fractionals) acquired by the trustee/administrator of the Issuer's 401(k)Plan for the reporting person's benefit, based on a statement of the plan trustee/administrator.
- (5) The price per share is based on a statement provided by the Issuer's 401(k) Plan trustee/administrator.
 - The number of securities shown as being held in, acquired by or disposed of by the Issuer's 401(k) Plan for the Reporting Person's benefit are the approximate number of shares of common stock (excluding fractionals) for which the Reporting Person has the right to direct the
- (6) vote under the Issuer's 401(k) plan. Such shares are not directly allocated to 401(k) Plan participants, but are instead held in a unitized fund consisting primarily of Issuer common stock, together with a small percentage of short-term investments. 401(k) Plan participants acquire units of this fund.
- The total number of securities beneficially held directly by the Reporting Person following the reported transaction includes: 1,944 shares of restricted stock issued under the Issuer's 2008 Stock Plan which vest, subject to certain conditions, on 05/21/2013; 2,714 shares of restricted stock issued under the Issuer's 2008 Stock Plan which vest, subject to certain conditions, on 02/18/2016; and 1,933 shares of restricted stock issued under the Issuer's 2008 Stock Plan which vest, subject to certain conditions, on 02/15/2018.

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.