

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

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

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>SHERERTZ WILLIAM W</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>8100 NE PARKWAY DRIVE</u> <u>SUITE 200</u> (Street) <u>VANCOUVER WA 98662</u> (City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>BARRETT BUSINESS SERVICES INC [BBSI]</u> | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) President & CEO |
| | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>08/06/2009</u> | |
| 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | |

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 | (A) or (D) | Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 08/06/2009 | | M | | 180,000 | A | \$2.2 | 2,635,199 ⁽¹⁾ | D | |
| Common Stock | 08/06/2009 | | M | | 75,000 | A | \$2.01 | 2,710,199 ⁽¹⁾ | D | |
| Common Stock | 08/06/2009 | | F | | 54,322 | D | \$10.065 | 2,655,877 ⁽¹⁾ | D | |

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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---------|--|-----------------|---|--|--|---|--|-------|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | | | | | Title |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$2.2 | 08/06/2009 | | M | | | 180,000 | 08/20/2003 ⁽²⁾ | 08/20/2012 | Common Stock | 180,000 | \$0 | 0 | D | |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$2.01 | 08/06/2009 | | M | | | 75,000 | 06/04/2004 ⁽²⁾ | 06/04/2013 | Common Stock | 75,000 | \$0 | 0 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

- The reporting person also has indirect beneficial ownership of 10,500 shares held by his wife and 91,479 shares held by the reporting person for his children.
- Became exercisable in four equal annual installments beginning one year after the date of grant. Exhibit List Exhibit 24- Power of Attorney

James D. Miller, as attorney-in-fact 08/07/2009

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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).

** 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.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know all by these present, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints each of James D. Miller, Gregory R. Vaughn, and Brooks DiStefano signing singly, the undersigned's true and lawful attorney-in-fact to:

1. Execute for and on behalf of the undersigned, in the undersigned's capacity as an officer and/or director of Barrett Business Services, Inc. (the "Company"), Forms 3, 4, and 5 in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules thereunder, and any other forms or reports the undersigned may be required to file in connection with the undersigned's ownership, acquisition, or disposition of securities of the Company; and

2. Do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to complete and execute any such Form 3, 4, or 5, or other form or report, and timely file such form or report with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any stock exchange or similar authority as appropriate.

The undersigned hereby grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing necessary or proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorneys-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, are not assuming, and the Company is not assuming, any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 3, 4, and 5 with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in securities issued by the Company, unless earlier revoked by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to the foregoing attorneys-in-fact.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 20th day of May, 2009.

/s/ William W. Sherertz

Signature

William W. Sherertz

Print Name