

Benefitfocus, Inc.  
Form 4  
March 12, 2015

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2015  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 \*  
Howell Andrew L

(Last) (First) (Middle)

100 BENEFITFOCUS WAY

(Street)

CHARLESTON, SC 29492

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
Benefitfocus, Inc. [BNFT]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
03/10/2015

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)

Chief Commercial Officer

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount  | Price  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 03/10/2015                           |  | S <sup>(1)</sup>               |   | 14,500  | D 40.09<br>(2)   | 178,157 D                         |
| Common Stock                    | 03/10/2015                           |  | M                              |   | 10,263  | A \$ 5.38  | 188,420 D                         |
| Common Stock                    | 03/10/2015                           |  | S <sup>(1)</sup>               |   | 10,263  | D 40.09<br>(2)   | 178,157 D                         |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**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)                | \$ 5.38  | 03/10/2015                           |  | M <sup>(3)</sup>               | 10,263  | <sup>(4)</sup> 06/30/2020                                | Common Stock  | 10,263                        |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy)                | \$ 3.8   |                                      |  |                                |   | <sup>(5)</sup> 06/30/2019                                | Common Stock  | 3,098                         |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy)                | \$ 10.3  |                                      |  |                                |   | <sup>(6)</sup> 09/30/2022                                | Common Stock  | 22,667                        |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy)                | \$ 13.53   |                                      |  |                                |   | <sup>(7)</sup> 05/07/2023                                | Common Stock  | 51,461                        |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                  | Relationships |           |                          |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                  | Other |
| Howell Andrew L<br>100 BENEFITFOCUS WAY<br>CHARLESTON, SC 29492 |               |           | Chief Commercial Officer |       |

## Signatures

/s/ S. Halle Vakani,  
Attorney-in-Fact

03/12/2015

          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) This sale was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan executed by the reporting person on May 19, 2014 and effective on May 20, 2014 and amended on December 2, 2014.

(2) This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$40.00 to \$40.30. The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request to the SEC staff, the Issuer or a security holder of the Issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transactions were effected.

(3) This exercise was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan executed by the reporting person on May 19, 2014 and effective on May 20, 2014 and amended on December 2, 2014.

(4) This option was granted on July 1, 2010 and vests over a four-year period with one-fourth (1/4) of the option granted vesting on July 1, 2011, the first anniversary of the vesting commencement date, and the balance of the option granted vesting ratably on a monthly basis over the following 36 months.

(5) This option is fully vested.

(6) This option was granted on October 1, 2012 and vests over a four-year period with one-fourth (1/4) of the option granted vesting on October 1, 2013, the first anniversary of the vesting commencement date, and the balance of the option granted vesting ratably on a monthly basis over the following 36 months.

(7) This option was granted on May 8, 2013 and vests over a four-year period with one-fourth (1/4) of the option granted vesting on May 8, 2014, the first anniversary of the vesting commencement date, and the balance of the option granted vesting ratably on a monthly basis over the following 36 months.

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.