

Priest Jeffrey W
 Form 4
 February 03, 2012

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 *
 Priest Jeffrey W

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 GENERAL AMERICAN INVESTORS CO INC [GAM]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 GENERAL AMERICAN INVESTORS COMPANY, INC., 100 PARK AVENUE - 35TH FLOOR

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 02/02/2012

____ Director
 Officer (give title below)
 ____ 10% Owner
 ____ Other (specify below)
 President

(Street)
 NEW YORK, NY 10017

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price | | | |
| 5.95% Preferred Stock | 02/01/2012 | | S | 1,444 D \$ 25.91 | 3,356 | D | |
| 5.95% Preferred Stock | 02/02/2012 | | S | 3,356 D \$ 26 | 0 | D | |
| 5.95% Preferred Stock | | | | | 1,739 | I | By Parent (1) |

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| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|---|---------------------------------|
| 5.95% Preferred Stock | 13,121 | I | By Power of Attorney <u>(1)</u> |
| 5.95% Preferred Stock | 2,000 | I | By Children <u>(2)</u> |
| Common Stock | 11,592 | D | |
| Common Stock | 2,072 | I | By Parent <u>(1)</u> |
| Common Stock | 10,196 | I | By Power of Attorney <u>(1)</u> |

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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Beneficially (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| | | | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Priest Jeffrey W GENERAL AMERICAN INVESTORS COMPANY, INC. 100 PARK AVENUE - 35TH FLOOR | | | President | |

NEW YORK, NY 10017

Signatures

/s/Jeffrey W.
Priest

02/03/2012

__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) Mr. Priest has voting and dispositive power and disclaims beneficial interest.

(2) Pecuniary interest.

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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