

MERTON EDWARD A  
Form 4  
January 05, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
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 \*  
MERTON EDWARD A

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
PEAPACK GLADSTONE FINANCIAL CORP [PGC]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
500 HILLS DRIVE, SUITE 300, PO BOX 700  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
01/03/2012

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

BEDMINSTER, NJ 07921

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			
Common Stock					28,890	D	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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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. De	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock option (right to buy)	\$ 27.51					<u>(1)</u>	01/09/2014	Common Stock	11,550
Stock option (right to buy)	\$ 26.76					<u>(2)</u>	01/03/2017	Common Stock	2,310
Stock option (right to buy)	\$ 23.4					<u>(3)</u>	01/02/2018	Common Stock	2,310
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 13.43					<u>(5)</u>	01/04/2020	Common Stock	5,000
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 13.53					<u>(6)</u>	01/03/2021	Common Stock	2,500
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 10.72	01/03/2012		A	2,500	<u>(7)</u>	01/03/2022	Common Stock	2,500

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
MERTON EDWARD A 500 HILLS DRIVE, SUITE 300 PO BOX 700 BEDMINSTER, NJ 07921	X			

## Signatures

Edward A.  
Merton

01/05/2012

  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).

The options were exercisable in five equal annual installments on January 9, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009. On December 8, 2005, the

- (1) Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of Peapack-Gladstone Financial Corporation authorized the accelerated vesting of the remaining options.
- (2) The options are exercisable in five equal annual installments on January 3, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.
- (3) The options are exercisable in five equal annual installments on January 2, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013.
- (4) Option grant has no purchase or sale price
- (5) The options are exercisable in four equal annual installments on January 4, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014.
- (6) The options are exercisable in four equal annual installments on January 3, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015.
- (7) The options are exercisable in four equal annual installments on January 3, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

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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