

Gunning Thomas J  
Form 3  
January 13, 2010

# FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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## INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
Â Gunning Thomas J	(Month/Day/Year)	MERIDIAN INTERSTATE BANCORP INC [EBSB]
(Last) (First) (Middle)	01/04/2010	
10 MERIDIAN STREET		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
(Street)		(Check all applicable)
		5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
		___X___ Director ___ 10% Owner
		___ Officer ___ Other
		___ Form filed by One Reporting Person
		___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

EAST BOSTON,Â MAÂ 02128

(City) (State) (Zip)

### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	0	D	Â

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**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 control number.**

### Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of	

Shares

(I)  
(Instr. 5)

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Gunning Thomas J 10 MERIDIAN STREET EAST BOSTON, MA 02128	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Signatures

/s/ Edward A. Quint, Pursuant to Power of  
Attorney

01/13/2010

\_\_\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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.

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