

Merritt Edward 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 \*

^ Merritt Edward J

(Last) (First) (Middle)

10 MERIDIAN STREET

(Street)

EAST BOSTON, ^ MA ^ 02128

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement

(Month/Day/Year)

01/04/2010

3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

MERIDIAN INTERSTATE BANCORP INC [EBSB]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Check all applicable)

☒ Director ☐ 10% Owner

☒ Officer ☐ Other

(give title below) (specify below)

EVP

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 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

^

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                    |
| Merritt Edward J<br>10 MERIDIAN STREET<br>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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