FORM 4

obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Washington, D.C. 20040

| STATEMENT | OF CHANGES | IN BENEFICIAL | OWNERSHIP |
|-----------|------------|---------------|-----------|
| | | | |

| | OMB APPRO | OVAL | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | OMB Number: 3235- | | | | | | | |
| l | Estimated average burden | | | | | | | |
| | hours per response: | 0.5 | | | | | | |

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* ROBINSON VAN NESS D | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NBT BANCORP INC [NBTB] | | | | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | |
|--|--|-------------|---------|---|--|--|---|---|-------|---|----------------------|-----------|--|---|---|--|---------------|------------|--|
| | | | | | | | | | | - | - | | | | X Dire | ctor | 10% (| Owner | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 52 SOUTH BROAD STREET | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/04/2004 | | | | | | | | | | Offic belo | er (give title w) | Other below | (specify) | | |
| (Street) NORWIC | CH NY | Ý 1 | .3815 | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 05/05/2004 | | | | | | | | 6. I Lin | e) X Forr Forr | lual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | |
| (City) | (St | ate) (| Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Date | | | | | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 3, 8) 4. Securities Acquired (A Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 5) | | | | | d Secur Benef | icially d Following | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount (A) or (D) | |) or) | Price | Trans | action(s) 3 and 4) | | (Instr. 4) | |
| NBT Ban | corp Inc. Co | ommon Stock | | 05/04 | /2004 | | A | | 661 A | | \$ <mark>0</mark> (1 | 3,929.509 | | D | | | | | |
| 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) | | Pate, (| 4. Transa Code (B) | (Instr. | | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) Date Expiration Date Exercisable | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) Amoun or Numbe of Title Shares | | unt | 3. Price of Derivative Security Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Acquired pursuant to the formula provisions of the NBT Bancorp Inc. Non-employee Directors' Restricted and Deferred Stock Plan pursuant to which each outside director is entitled to receive an annual retainer for Board service in the form of restricted shares of the Company's common stock rather than cash that vests in three annual installments.

By: Michael J. Chewens,

Power of Attorney For: Van

Ness D. Robinson

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

05/07/2004

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

- * 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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 Number.