

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO
 Form 4
 May 18, 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 *
 RIDLEY DAVIS S /TX

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO
 [LUV]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)
 ___ Director ___ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)
 Senior Vice President, CMO

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 SOUTHWEST AIRLINES
 CO., 2702 LOVE FIELD DRIVE
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 05/16/2012

DALLAS, TX 75235-1908

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Common Stock | 05/16/2012 | | A | (A) Amount 46,590 (1) | \$ 0 144,504 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 800 | I | As Custodian for Son |
| Common Stock | | | | | 1,665 (2) | I | By ProfitSharing Plan |

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not

SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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 Following Transaction (Instr. 6) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| RIDLEY DAVIS S /TX SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO. 2702 LOVE FIELD DRIVE DALLAS, TX 75235-1908 | | | Senior Vice President, CMO | |

Signatures

/s/ Marilyn R. Post, on behalf of and as attorney-in-fact for Davis S. Ridley 05/17/2012

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).

Reflects the exempt acquisition of restricted stock units pursuant to the Southwest Airlines Co. Amended and Restated 2007 Equity

(1) Incentive Plan. The restricted stock units will vest with respect to one-third of the shares covered thereby annually, beginning on May 16, 2013, and will entitle the reporting person to one share of common stock for each restricted stock unit that vests.

(2) Holdings reflect exempt transactions under the Issuer's ProfitSharing Plan.

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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