

FIDELITY NATIONAL FINANCIAL INC /DE/
 Form 4
 December 17, 2004

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 *
 SMITH ERNEST

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 FIDELITY NATIONAL FINANCIAL INC /DE/ [FNF]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 601 RIVERSIDE AVENUE
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/16/2004

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 Exec. VP; Co-COO

JACKSONVILLE, FL 322404

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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (D) | Price |

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 required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of Derivative Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|

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| (Instr. 3) | Price of Derivative Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------|--|------|---|-----|-----|------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Stock Option (right to purchase) | \$ 36.6 | 12/16/2004 ⁽¹⁾ | A | 150,000 | | | | | ⁽²⁾ | 10/15/2012 | Common Stock | 150,000 |
| Stock Option (right to purchase) | ⁽³⁾ | | | | | | | | ⁽⁴⁾ | ⁽⁵⁾ | Common Stock | 180,320 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| SMITH ERNEST 601 RIVERSIDE AVENUE JACKSONVILLE, FL 322404 | | | Exec. VP; Co-COO | |

Signatures

Ernest D. Smith 12/17/2004
 **Signature of Date
 Reporting Person

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).
- (1) The effective date of the grant is October 15, 2004, but the grant was contingent upon shareholder approval of the 2004 Omnibus Incentive Plan, which approval was obtained December 16, 2004.
- (2) Options vest in three equal annual installments beginning October 15, 2005.
- (3) Comprises options granted at various prices.
- (4) Exercise dates vary for each of the various grants.
- (5) Expiration dates vary for each of the various grants.
- (6) Reflects Reporting Person's total Derivative Securities ownership in Fidelity National Financial, Inc. as of December 16, 2004.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.