

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM 4

Statement of changes in beneficial ownership of securities

Filing Date: **2005-05-02** | Period of Report: **2005-04-29**
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ISSUER

THOMAS & BETTS CORP

CIK: **97854** | IRS No.: **221326940** | State of Incorporation: **TN** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**
SIC: **3640** Electric lighting & wiring equipment

Mailing Address
8155 T&B BOULEVARD
MEMPHIS TN 38125

Business Address
8155 T&B BOULEVARD
MEMPHIS TN 38125
9012525000

REPORTING OWNER

JERNIGAN DEAN

CIK: **1198348**
Type: **4** | Act: **34** | File No.: **001-04682** | Film No.: **05789347**

Business Address
THOMAS & BETTS CORP.
MEMPHIS TN 38125

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person JERNIGAN DEAN			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol THOMAS & BETTS CORP [TNB]		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/29/2005			
8155 T&B BOULEVARD			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check applicable line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form Filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person	
(Street)						
MEMPHIS,, TN 38125						
(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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	04/29/2005		M		5,000 ⁽¹⁾	A	\$20.765	11,228	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		M		5,000 ⁽¹⁾	A	\$23.325	16,228	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		M		5,000 ⁽¹⁾	A	\$15.015	21,228	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		100	D	\$31.19	21,128	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		200	D	\$31.19	20,928	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		700	D	\$31.18	20,228	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		100	D	\$31.24	20,128	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		900	D	\$31.24	19,228	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		2,000	D	\$31.25	17,228	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		1,100	D	\$31.18	16,128	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		400	D	\$31.14	15,728	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		1,200	D	\$31.13	14,528	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		1,800	D	\$31.09	12,728	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		500	D	\$31.09	12,228	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		400	D	\$31.14	11,828	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		1,300	D	\$31.13	10,528	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		S		400	D	\$31.14	10,128	D	

Common Stock	04/29/2005		<u>S</u>		300	D	\$31.14	9,828	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		<u>S</u>		100	D	\$31.14	9,728	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		<u>S</u>		500	D	\$31.11	9,228	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		<u>S</u>		100	D	\$31.11	9,128	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		<u>S</u>		800	D	\$31.11	8,328	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		<u>S</u>		300	D	\$31.1	8,028	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		<u>S</u>		200	D	\$31.1	7,828	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		<u>S</u>		500	D	\$31.09	7,328	D	
Common Stock	04/29/2005		<u>S</u>		1,100	D	\$31.05	6,228	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)	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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Nonemployee Director Stock Option (right to buy)	\$20.765	04/29/2005		<u>M</u>			5,000	05/02/2001	05/02/2011	Common Stock	5,000	\$ 0	0	D	
Nonemployee Director Stock Option (right to buy)	\$23.325	04/29/2005		<u>M</u>			5,000	05/01/2002	05/01/2012	Common Stock	5,000	\$ 0	0	D	
Nonemployee Director Stock Option (right to buy)	\$15.015	04/29/2005		<u>M</u>			5,000	05/07/2003	05/07/2013	Common Stock	5,000	\$ 0	0	D	

Explanation of Responses:

1. Securities acquired pursuant to stock option exercise.

Signatures

Lisa M. Blackwell, as Attorney-in-Fact

** Signature of Reporting Person

05/02/2005

Date

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.

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