

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM 4

Statement of changes in beneficial ownership of securities

Filing Date: **2013-05-16** | Period of Report: **2013-05-16**
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REPORTING OWNER

PORTERA MALCOLM

CIK: **1223543**

Type: **4** | Act: **34** | File No.: **001-11339** | Film No.: **13851544**

ISSUER

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP

CIK: **355429** | IRS No.: **952492236** | State of Incorporation: **DE** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**
SIC: **6311** Life insurance

Mailing Address
*PO BOX 2606
BIRMINGHAM AL 35202*

Business Address
*2801 HGWY 280 S
BIRMINGHAM AL 35223
2052683596*

FORM 4

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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 PORTERA MALCOLM | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP [PL] | | | 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) 05/16/2013 | | | | | |
| 2801 HIGHWAY 280, SOUTH | | | 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) BIRMINGHAM, AL 35223 | | | | | | | | |
| (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 | 05/16/2013 | | A | | 1,940.4916 | A | \$38.65 | 42,932.1084 | I | Deferred Compensation (I) |
| Common Stock | 05/16/2013 | | A | | 328.2089 | A | \$38.0855 | 43,260.3173 | I | Deferred Compensation (I) |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 100 | 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 | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Shares acquired through the PLC Def. Comp. Plan for Directors who are not Officers of the Corporation (exempt under Rule 16b-3).

Signatures

by Elizabeth Holland Brown Attorney-in-Fact for Malcolm Portera

05/16/2013

** Signature of Reporting Person

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.

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.