GRUBE CRAIG A

Form 5

February 10, 2012

FORM 5

OMB APPROVAL

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB Number: 3235-0362 January 31,

2005

1.0

no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Check this box if

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response...

Expires:

1(b). Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Form 3 Holdings Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section Reported

Form 4 Transactions 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Transactions Reported

| 1. Name and Add GRUBE CRA | • | rting Person * | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES INC [PRAA] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | |
|------------------------------|----------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2011 | Director 10% Owner Officer (give titleX Other (specify below) Senior Advisor | | | |
| 120 CORPOR 100 | RATE BLV | D,A SUITE | | | | | |
| (Street) | | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting | | | |

NORFOLK, VAÂ 23502

X Form Filed by One Reporting Person __ Form Filed by More than One Reporting

(check applicable line)

| (City) | (State) | (Zip) Tab | le I - Non-Der | ivative Secu | uritie | s Acquir | ed, Disposed of | , or Beneficiall | y 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) | | pose | d of (D) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock | 02/18/2011 | Â | S <u>(1)</u> | 3,000 | D | \$ 85.21 | 27,789 | D | Â |
| Common Stock | 02/18/2011 | Â | G <u>(1)</u> | 1,442 | D | \$ 0 | 26,347 | D | Â |
| Common Stock | 02/25/2011 | Â | S(1) | 1,000 | D | \$ 84.85 | 25,347 | D | Â |
| Common | 05/10/2011 | Â | S <u>(1)</u> | 2,600 | D | \$ | 22,747 | D | Â |

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| Stock | | | | | | 85.72 (2) | | | |
|-----------------|------------|---|--------------|-------|---|--------------|--------|---|---|
| Common Stock | 05/10/2011 | Â | G <u>(1)</u> | 500 | D | \$ 0 | 22,247 | D | Â |
| Common Stock | 05/12/2011 | Â | S <u>(1)</u> | 400 | D | \$ 85.25 | 21,847 | D | Â |
| Common Stock | 05/31/2011 | Â | S <u>(1)</u> | 1,000 | D | \$ 86.25 | 20,847 | D | Â |
| Common Stock | 07/07/2011 | Â | S <u>(1)</u> | 600 | D | \$ 89.25 | 20,247 | D | Â |
| Common Stock | 08/09/2011 | Â | P <u>(1)</u> | 1,500 | A | \$ 67.47 | 21,747 | D | Â |
| Common Stock | 12/31/2011 | Â | A(1)(3) | 1,085 | A | \$ 0 | 22,832 | D | Â |

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 2270 (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 (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. 6. Date Exerce Number Expiration Da of (Month/Day/Y Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, | | ate | Secur | int of rlying | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. of D Se B O En Is Fi |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | (1 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-----------------|--|--|--|--|
| • | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | | |
| GRUBE CRAIG A | | | | | | | | |
| 120 CORPORATE BLVD | Â | Â | Â | Senior Advisor | | | | |
| SUITE 100 | А | A | A | Sellioi Auvisoi | | | | |
| NORFOLK, VA 23502 | | | | | | | | |

2 Reporting Owners

Signatures

/s/ Craig A. 02/10/2012 Grube

**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).
- (1) This transaction occurred after the reporting person exited Section 16 status and is being reported voluntarily by way of this Form 5.
- (2) The sale prices for this transaction ranged from \$85.69 to \$85.74. The filer hereby agrees to provide, upon request by the Commission staff, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.
- These shares were awarded pursuant to the Company's 2010 Long Term Equity Incentive Plan ("LTI Plan") in which the reporting person was granted both performance based and time vested restricted shares. The shares reported on this form represent the shares earned under the Earnings Per Share performance category as outlined in the Proxy Statement filed by Portfolio Recovery Associates, Inc. on April 27, 2011.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.

Signatures 3