Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co
Form 4
September 18, 2014

# FORM 4

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

**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

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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Bayers William Frederick

(Last) (First) (Middle)

222 BERKELEY STREET

(Street)

BOSTON, MA 02116

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co [HMHC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
09/16/2014

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

_____ Director _____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
See remarks.

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person
___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**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 | 09/16/2014 | | M | | 15,000 | A | $ 12.5 | 18,137 | D | |
| Common Stock | 09/16/2014 | | S(1) | | 15,000 | D | $ 19.8105 (2) | 3,137 | D | |

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

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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 (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) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | $ 12.5 | 09/16/2014 | | M | | | 15,000 | (3) | 06/22/2019 | Common Stock | 15,000 |

# Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Bayers William Frederick<br>222 BERKELEY STREET<br>BOSTON, MA 02116 | | | See remarks. | |

# Signatures

| /s/ William F. Bayers | 09/18/2014 |
|---|---|
| **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)** These shares were sold pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan.

**(2)** The sale price represents the weighted average sale price for multiple transactions reported on this line. The prices of the transactions ranged from $19.70 to $19.99. Upon request of the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Company (the "Company") or a security holder of the Company, the reporting person will provide full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.

**(3)** 50% of this grant of employee stock options has vested and is currently exercisable. The remaining stock options vest in two equal installments on June 22, 2015 and June 22, 2016, subject to continued employment with the Company.

**Remarks:**

Executive Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel.

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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