

Finley John G
 Form 4
 July 27, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 Finley John G

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O THE BLACKSTONE GROUP
 L.P., 345 PARK AVENUE

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10154

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 Blackstone Group L.P. [BX]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 07/01/2012

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)

Chief Legal Officer

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

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

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 (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 |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------|------------|--|------|---|-----|-----|---------------------|--------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Blackstone Holdings partnership units ⁽¹⁾ | <u>(1)</u> | 07/01/2012 | A | 20,454 <u>(2)</u> | | | | | <u>(1)</u> | <u>(1)</u> | Common units representing limited partnership interests | 20,454 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Finley John G C/O THE BLACKSTONE GROUP L.P. 345 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10154 | | | Chief Legal Officer | |

Signatures

John G. Finley 07/27/2012
 __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) A "Blackstone Holdings partnership" unit collectively refers to one limited partner interest in each of Blackstone Holdings I L.P., Blackstone Holdings II L.P., Blackstone Holdings III L.P., and Blackstone Holdings IV L.P. Subject to the minimum retained ownership requirements and transfer restrictions set forth in the partnership agreements of the Blackstone partnerships, the Reporting Person has the rights, exercisable from time to time, to exchange each Blackstone Holdings partnership unit for one common unit of The Blackstone Group L.P. The Blackstone Holdings partnership units have no expiration date and may not be exchanged at any time prior to December 31, 2012 other than pursuant to transactions or programs approved by Blackstone.
- (2) Granted under the 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, 20% of these deferred restricted Blackstone Holdings partnership units, or 4,091 units, will vest on July 1, 2015; an additional 30%, or 6,136 units, will vest on July 1, 2016; and the remaining 50%, or 10,227, will vest on July 1, 2017. As these deferred restricted Blackstone Holdings partnership units vest, the underlying Blackstone Holdings partnership units will be delivered to the Reporting Person, except that no more than 3/4 of the vested units will be delivered during the Reporting Person's service with Blackstone (with the remaining units to be delivered after the expiration of the Reporting Person's restrictive covenant period). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the units may be delivered earlier upon a change in control of Blackstone.

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.