

CESPEDES SAMUEL T
 Form 5
 February 13, 2006

FORM 5

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

OMB APPROVAL

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 Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

ANNUAL 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 CESPEDES SAMUEL T

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 POPULAR INC [BPOP]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 ____ Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

Secretary of the Board

P O BOX 362708
 (Street)

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)
 12/31/2005

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

SAN JUAN, PR 00936-2708

Form Filed by One Reporting Person
 ____ Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

(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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock Par Value \$6 per share | 12/31/2005 | 12/31/2005 | J ⁽¹⁾ | 320 A \$0 | 27,233 | D | À |

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.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

