FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | | | | | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | | | | | |
| hours per response: | 0.5 | | | | | | | |

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* MCDOWELL FRANK C | | | | | Pied | Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Piedmont Office Realty Trust, Inc. [PDM] Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | eck all ap | oplicable) ector | | Person(s) to Issuer | |
|--|---|---------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|----------|---|--------|-------|--|---|-------------------------------|--|--|---------------------|----------------------|
| (Last) | | | | | 05/12/2016 | | | | | | | | | | Officer (give title below) | | Other (specify below) | | |
| 11695 JOHNS CREEK PARKWAY STE. 350 | | | | 4. If A | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | | |
| (Street) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | n filed by One | | • | |
| l` ′ | CREEK GA | 3 | 0097 | | | | | | | | | | | | Forn | n filed by Moi on | re than | One Rep | orting |
| (City) | (Sta | ate) (Z | Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Table | e I - N | on-Deriv | ative S | Secu | ıritie | s Acq | uired, [| Disp | osed o | f, or | Bene | ficial | ly Own | ed | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transacti Date (Month/Day | | | | | Execution Date, | | | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Securities Acquirities Acquirit | | | | | Secur Bene Owne | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following | | nership Direct ct (I) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | | (A) or (D) | Price | Repo Trans | | (Instr. | 7) | (mau. 4) |
| Common Stock 05/12/2 | | | | | .016 | | | Α | | 3,921(1) | | A | \$ <mark>0</mark> | | 50,762 | | 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) | rative rity or Exercise Price of Derivative Security Conversion of Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any (Month/Day/Year) | | Code (Ir | sinsaction de (Instr. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) Date Expiration Exercisable Date | | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Inst 3 and 4) | | ount | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | Ow For Oir or (I) | rnership rm: rect (D) Indirect (Instr. | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Shares granted will vest on the anniversary of the grant date on May 12, 2017.

Remarks:

/s/ Laura P. Moon as Attorneyin-Fact for Frank C. McDowell 05/16/2016

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

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.

^{**} Signature of Reporting Person Date

^{*} 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).