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

| Name and Address of Reporting Person*     Smith Christopher Brent                |  |                  |          |   |         | Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol     Piedmont Office Realty Trust, Inc. [ PDM ]     3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) |   |   |   |  |                                      |      |  |  | heck al   | nship of Reporti<br>I applicable)<br>Director<br>Officer (give title | ng Pers  | 10% C  |   |  |
|--|--|------------------|----------|---|---------|--|---|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|------|--|--|---|--|--|--------|---|--|
| (Last)   | (Fir   | (First) (Middle) |          |   |         |  | 05/01/2016  |   |   |  |                                      |      |  |  | 1   | below)   |  | below) |   |  |
| 11695 JC   |  |                  |          |   |         |  |   |   |   |  | EVP- NY Region & Strategic Inv       |      |  |  |   |  |  |        |   |  |
| STE 350  |  |                  |          |   |         | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)   |   |   |   |  |                                      |      |  |  | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) |  |  |        |   |  |
| (Street)   |  |                  |          |   |         |  |   |   |   |  | X Form filed by One Reporting Person |      |  |  |   |  |  |        |   |  |
| JOHNS CREEK GA 30097   |  |                  |          |   |         |  |   |   |   |  |                                      |      |  | Form filed by More than One Reporting Person     |   |  |  |        |   |  |
| (City)   | (St  | ate) (Z          | Zip)     |   |         |  |   |   |   |  |                                      |      |  |  |   |  |  |        |   |  |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned |  |                  |          |   |         |  |   |   |   |  |                                      |      |  |  |   |  |  |        |   |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/                 |  |                  |          |   | //Year) | Execution Date,  |   |   | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Securities Acquired (Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3 and 5) |  |                                      |      |  |  | S B   | Amount of<br>ecurities<br>eneficially<br>wned<br>ollowing            |  |        | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |
|  |  |                  |          |   |         |  |   |   | Code  | v  | Amount                               |      | A) or<br>D)                                  | Price  | R   | eported<br>ransaction(s)<br>nstr. 3 and 4)                           | (iiisii.   | 4)     | (111501. 4)   |  |
| Common   | 016  |                  |          | F   |         | 667(1)   |   | D | <b>\$19</b> .   | 91   | 31,536                               |      | D  |  |   |  |  |        |   |  |
|  | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |                  |          |   |         |  |   |   |   |  |                                      |      |  |  |   |  |  |        |   |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)                              | ative Conversion Date Execution Date, if any   |                  | Code (li | of Deriv. Secur<br>Acqui (A) or Dispo<br>of (D) (Instr. and 5 |         |  | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)  Date Exercisable Date |   |   | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr 3 and 4)  Amount or Numbor of Title Shares |                                      | ount | 8. Pric<br>of<br>Deriva<br>Securi<br>(Instr. | derivative<br>tive Securities<br>ty Beneficially | Ow<br>Fo<br>Dir<br>or<br>(I)<br>4)                          | nership<br>rm:<br>rect (D)<br>Indirect<br>(Instr.                    | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |        |   |  |

## Explanation of Responses:

1. In connection with the vesting of 1,999 shares of deferred stock on May 1, 2016 (representing 25% of an initial grant made on May 1, 2015), 667 shares were forfeited by the employee and delivered to the Company to satisfy tax withholding obligations.

## Remarks:

/s/ Laura P. Moon as Attorneyin-Fact for Christopher Brent 05/03/2016 Smith

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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).

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.