

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

() Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person

BROWN, DR., PETER W
417 LIBBIE AVENUE
RICHMOND, VA 23226
USA

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

BASSETT FURNITURE INDUSTRIES, INC
BSET

3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)

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4. Statement for Month/Year

JANUARY 11, 1999

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)

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

7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)

() 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	2. Transaction Date	3. Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Amount	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	6. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
				12,776	D	

Table II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative	3. Transaction Date	4. Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Amount	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	10. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
*OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY)	27.75				10-01-94 3-31-2004	COMMON 500		500	D	
*OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY)	26.50				10-03-95 4-02-2005	COMMON 500		500	D	
*OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY)	25.75				10-02-96 4-02-2006	COMMON 500		500	D	
*OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY)	23.875				10-01-97 4-02-2007	COMMON 500		500	D	
*OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY)	27.75				5-07-98 11-06-07	COMMON 2500		2500	D	
*OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY)	30.75	4-01-98	A	V1,000	A 10-01-98 3-31-08	COMMON 1000		1000	D	

Explanation of Responses:

*GRANTED UNDER THE 1993 STOCK PLAN FOR NON-EMPLOYEE

DIRECTORS

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON

PETER W BROWN

DATE

JANUARY 11, 1999