

Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc.
 Form 4
 March 08, 2016

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2015
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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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 *
 Lombardi Brandon F.

(Last) (First) (Middle)

5455 EAST HIGH STREET, SUITE 111

(Street)

PHOENIX, AZ 85054

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc. [SFM]

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

03/04/2016

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

Chief Legal Officer

6. 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 (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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount (A) or (D) Price | | |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share ⁽¹⁾ | 03/04/2016 | | A | | 2,601 A \$0 | 18,879 | D |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share | 03/07/2016 | | S ⁽²⁾ | | 261 D \$27.9315 | 18,618 ⁽⁴⁾ | D |

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

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SEC 1474
(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 (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 28.21 | 03/04/2016 | | A | 7,683 | <u>(5)</u> 03/04/2023 | Common stock, par value \$0.001 per share | 7,683 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Lombardi Brandon F. 5455 EAST HIGH STREET SUITE 111 PHOENIX, AZ 85054 | | | Chief Legal Officer | |

Signatures

/s/ Brandon F. Lombardi 03/08/2016

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

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).
- Consists of a grant of restricted stock units. Each restricted stock unit represents the right to receive, upon vesting, one share of common
- (1) stock. These restricted stock units will vest over three years, with one-third vesting on March 4, 2017; one-third vesting on March 4, 2018; and the remaining one-third vesting on March 4, 2019, assuming continued employment through the applicable vest date.
 - (2)

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This transaction was a broker-assisted sale of shares of common stock to satisfy the withholding tax liability incurred upon the vesting of restricted stock units, as mandated by the Issuer's election under its equity incentive plan documents, and does not represent a discretionary trade by the reporting person.

- (3) The reported price in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$27.93 to \$28.32 per share, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to the issuer, any security holder of the issuer, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range set forth in this footnote.

- (4) Amount includes 8,557 shares of common stock, 3,415 restricted stock units and 6,646 performance share awards. Each restricted stock unit and performance share award represent the right to receive, upon vesting, one share of common stock. In addition to the shares underlying the restricted stock units described in footnote 1 above, the remaining 814 restricted stock units will vest on March 4, 2017, assuming continued employment through such date. The performance share awards will vest over two years, with one-half vesting on March 11, 2017 and the remaining one-half vesting on March 11, 2018, assuming continued employment through such dates.

- (5) These options become exercisable in three equal annual installments on March 4, 2017, March 4, 2018 and March 4, 2019.

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.