

**FORM 3****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES****OMB APPROVAL**

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

<b>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*</b> <u>LAZAR MELVIN F</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>C/O ARBOR REALTY TRUST, INC.,</u> <u>333 EARLE OVINGTON BLVD., SUITE</u> <u>900</u>  (Street) <u>UNIONDALE NY 11553</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	<b>2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year)</b> <u>12/19/2011</u>	<b>3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</b> <u>ARBOR REALTY TRUST INC [ ABR ]</u>  <b>4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)	<b>5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)</b>  <b>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
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**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	

**Explanation of Responses:****Remarks:**

No securities are beneficially owned.

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/s/ John Bishar, Attorney-in-  
Fact for Melvin F. Lazar

12/27/2011

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5 (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.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS that the undersigned hereby constitutes, designates and appoints Paul Elenio, Walter Horn and John Bishar as such person's true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, each with full power of substitution and resubstitution and full power to act alone and without the other, for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to execute, acknowledge, deliver and file any and all filings required by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including Section 16 of such Act, and the rules and regulations thereunder, and requisite documents in connection with such filings, respecting securities of Arbor Realty Trust, Inc., a Maryland corporation including but not limited to Forms 3, 4 and 5 under such act and any amendments thereto.

This Power of Attorney shall be valid from the date hereof until revoked by the undersigned.

The undersigned hereby revokes that certain Power of Attorney, executed by the undersigned as of the 20th of February, 2008.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this instrument as of the 22nd day of December, 2011.

/s/ Melvin F. Lazar  
Melvin F. Lazar