

BIRMINGHAM MARTIN KEARNEY

Form 4

February 25, 2010

FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

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 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

OMB APPROVAL

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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

BIRMINGHAM MARTIN
KEARNEY

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS INC
[FISI]5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

220 LIBERTY STREET

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

02/23/2010

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

Executive Vice President

WARSAW, NY 14569

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
____X____ 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)	
Common Stock	02/23/2010		A	2,500	A	\$ 0 (1)	16,124	D
Common Stock	02/23/2010		A	3,985	A	\$ 0 (2)	20,109	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)

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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 Acquired (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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
BIRMINGHAM MARTIN KEARNEY 220 LIBERTY STREET WARSAW, NY 14569	Executive Vice President

Signatures

Michael D. Grover for Martin K.
Birmingham

02/25/2010

__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).

(1) Represents a grant of restricted stock pursuant to the Company's 2009 Management Stock Incentive Plan. The award vests on February 23, 2014, subject to the participant's continued employment with the Company and subject to accelerated vesting upon the death of the participant. However, as long as the Company is a "TARP recipient," as defined under the Interim Final Rules, the award may become transferable only in 25% increments at the time of the Company's repayment of 25%, 50%, 75% and 100%, respectively, of the financial assistance it received under the U.S. Treasury's Capital Purchase Program, or as may be required to satisfy tax obligations incurred in connection with the vesting of the restricted shares.

(2) Represents a grant of restricted stock pursuant to the Company's 2009 Management Stock Incentive Plan. The award vests 50% on February 23, 2012 and 50% on February 23, 2013, subject to the achievement of the Company's performance goals for the year, subject to the participants continued employment with the company and subject to accelerated vesting upon the death of the participant. However, as long as the Company is a "TARP recipient," as defined under the Interim Final Rules, the award may become transferable only in 25% increments at the time of the Company's repayment of 25%, 50%, 75% and 100%, respectively, of the financial assistance it received under the U.S. Treasury's Capital Purchase Program, or as may be required to satisfy tax obligations incurred in connection with the vesting of the restricted shares.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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