

WINTRUST FINANCIAL CORP
 Form 3
 April 04, 2008

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * | | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol | |
| Â James Charles H III | | (Month/Day/Year) | WINTRUST FINANCIAL CORP [WTFEC] | |
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 01/24/2008 | |
| 1020 MILWAUKEE AVENUE, SUITE 360 | | | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) |
| (Street) | | | (Check all applicable) | |
| DEERFIELD,Â ILÂ 60015 | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director | <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | <input type="checkbox"/> Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| | | | (give title below) | (specify below) |
| | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) |
| | | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person |
| | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |

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) |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| No Securities Owned ⁽¹⁾ | 0 | D | Â |

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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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) Title | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|
|---|---|---|--|---|--|

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| Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Amount or Number of Shares | or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
|------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| James Charles H III 1020 MILWAUKEE AVENUE, SUITE 360 DEERFIELD, IL 60015 | Â X | Â | Â | Â |

Signatures

| | |
|--|------------|
| /s/David A. Dykstra, Attorney-in-Fact | 04/03/2008 |
|--|------------|

__Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).

This Form 3 is being filed as an initial report of Beneficial Ownership due to the election of the reporting person to the Board of Directors (1) at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on January 24, 2008. The filing was inadvertently not made at the time of the election and is being filed late.

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.