

LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP
 Form 3
 April 27, 2009

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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)

| | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|
| <p>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *</p> <p>Â Ottinger Eric H</p> <p>(Last) (First) (Middle)</p> <p>12133 EAGLE CREEK PLACE</p> <p>(Street)</p> <p>FORT WAYNE,Â INÂ 46814</p> <p>(City) (State) (Zip)</p> | <p>2. Date of Event Requiring Statement</p> <p>(Month/Day/Year)</p> <p>04/20/2009</p> | <p>3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</p> <p>LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP [LKFN]</p> | <p>4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</p> <p>(Check all applicable)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>(give title below) (specify below)</p> <p>Senior Vice President</p> | <p>5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)</p> | <p>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person</p> |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)</p> | <p>2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)</p> | <p>3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)</p> | <p>4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)</p> |
|--|--|---|--|

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)

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

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-------|-----------|---|---|
| Restricted Stock Units (2) | 03/15/2012 | 03/15/2012 ⁽¹⁾ | Common Stock | 2,000 | \$ 0 | D | Â |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | 05/08/2006 | 05/08/2011 | Common Stock | 2,000 | \$ 7 | D | Â |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | 12/09/2008 | 12/09/2013 | Common Stock | 3,000 | \$ 17.185 | D | Â |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | 10/11/2010 | 10/11/2015 | Common Stock | 6,000 | \$ 19.595 | D | Â |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | 05/14/2013 | 05/14/2018 | Common Stock | 3,000 | \$ 24.05 | D | Â |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Ottinger Eric H 12133 EAGLE CREEK PLACE FORT WAYNE, IN 46814 | Â | Â | Â Senior Vice President | Â |

Signatures

Teresa A. Bartman,
Attorney-in-Fact

04/27/2009

__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).

(1) Restricted Stock Unit awards are a conditional promise to transfer a share at a specific future date and do not have an expiration date.

(2) The Restricted Stock Units are subject to forfeiture based on corporate performance criteria.

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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