

LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP
 Form 5
 February 13, 2017

FORM 5

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0362
 Expires: January 31, 2015
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 1.0

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 Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

ANNUAL 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Ottinger Eric H
 (Last) (First) (Middle)
 12133 EAGLE CREEK PLACE
 (Street)
 FORT WAYNE, IN 46814
 (City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP [LKFN]

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)
 12/31/2016

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)
 Executive Vice President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting
 (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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	12/31/2016	^	J ⁽¹⁾	56 A	\$ 33.95	2,522 I	401(k) Plan
Common Stock	^	^	^	^	^	18,500 D	^

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

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SEC 2270 (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)	
					(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Restricted Stock Units ⁽²⁾	\$ 0 ⁽³⁾	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	02/01/2018	02/01/2018 ⁽⁴⁾	Common Stock	6,000
Restricted Stock Units ⁽²⁾	\$ 0 ⁽³⁾	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	02/01/2017	02/01/2017 ⁽⁴⁾	Common Stock	7,140
Restricted Stock Units ⁽²⁾	\$ 0 ⁽³⁾	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	02/01/2019	02/01/2019 ⁽⁴⁾	Common Stock	6,000

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 Executive Vice President	Â

Signatures

Teresa A. Bartman,
Attorney-in-Fact

02/13/2017

^{**}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) Salary redirection to 401(k) plan for 2016.
- (2) The Restricted Stock Units are subject to forfeiture based on corporate performance criteria.
- (3) Each Restricted Stock Unit exercises into 1 share of Common Stock.

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

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