

MERCANTILE BANK CORP
 Form 4
 November 25, 2008

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 CHRISTMAS CHARLES E

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 MERCANTILE BANK CORP
 [MBWM]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 11/25/2008

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 Senior V.P. & CFO

MERCANTILE BANK CORPORATION, 310 LEONARD STREET NW

(Street)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504

(City) (State) (Zip)

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | | | | Price |
| Common Stock | 11/25/2008 | | A | | 1,590 | A | \$ 0 | 7,454 ⁽¹⁾ | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 16,986 ⁽²⁾ | I | In 401(k) Plan |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 1,204 ⁽³⁾ | I | 401(k) Plan for spouse |

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

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SEC 1474
(9-02)

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) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 6.21 | 11/25/2008 | | A | 6,060 | 11/25/2010 11/24/2015 | Common Stock | 6,060 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| CHRISTMAS CHARLES E MERCANTILE BANK CORPORATION 310 LEONARD STREET NW GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504 | | | Senior V.P. & CFO | |

Signatures

/s/ Jerome M. Schwartz
Attorney-in-fact

11/25/2008

**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) Includes shares Mr. Christmas acquired since his last report of common stock ownership by reinvesting cash dividends under the issuer's dividend reinvestment plan.
- (2) Includes shares Mr. Christmas acquired pursuant to the issuer's 401(k) Plan since his last report of common stock ownership, including by reinvesting cash dividends under the issuer's dividend reinvestment plan.

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- (3) Includes shares Mrs. Christmas acquired pursuant to the issuer's 401(k) Plan, since Mr. Christmas' last report of common stock ownership, including by reinvesting cash dividends under the issuer's dividend reinvestment plan.

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.