

WILLIS LEASE FINANCE CORP
Form SC TO-I/A
December 17, 2015

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE TO

**Tender Offer Statement under Section 14(d)(1) or 13(e)(1)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

(Amendment No. 1)

WILLIS LEASE FINANCE CORPORATION

(Name of Subject Company (Issuer) and Filing Person (Offeror))

Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share

(Title of Class of Securities)

970646105

(CUSIP Number of Class of Securities)

Charles F. Willis, IV

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer

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c/o Willis Lease Finance Corporation

773 San Marin Drive, Suite 2215

Novato, CA 94998

(415) 408-4700

(Name, address and telephone number of person authorized

to receive notices and communications on behalf of filing person)

Copy to:

Stephen Schrader, Esq.

Edward J. Wes, Esq.

Perkins Coie, LLP

505 Howard Street, Suite 1000

San Francisco, California 94105

(415) 344-7000

Calculation of Filing Fee

Transaction Value(1)
\$11,588,778

Amount of filing fee(2)
\$1,167.00

(1) The transaction value is estimated only for purposes of calculating the filing fee. This calculation assumes the purchase of 643,821 shares of the issuer's common stock, \$0.01 par value, at the tender offer purchase price of \$18.00 per share in cash.

(2) A portion of this fee has been previously paid based on a transaction value of \$8 million prior to the decision to increase the number of shares accepted for purchase. The amount of the filing fee, calculated in accordance with Rule 0-11 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and equals \$100.70 per \$1,000,000 of the value of the transaction.

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Check the box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing with which the offsetting fee was previously paid. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Amount Previously Paid: | \$805.60 | Filing Party: | Willis Lease Finance Corporation |
| Form or Registration No.: | 005-49935 | Date Filed: | November 17, 2015 |

Check the box if filing relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer.

Check the appropriate boxes below to designate any transactions to which the statement relates:

third-party tender offer subject to Rule 14d-1.

issuer tender offer subject to Rule 13e-4.

going-private transaction subject to Rule 13e-3.

amendment to Schedule 13D under Rule 13d-2.

Check the following box if the filing is a final amendment reporting the results of the tender offer.

If applicable, check the appropriate box(es) below to designate the appropriate rule provision(s) relied upon:

Rule 13e-4(i) (Cross-Border Issuer Tender Offer)

Rule 14d-1(d) (Cross-Border Third Party Tender Offer)

This Amendment No. 1 (this Amendment) amends and supplements the Tender Offer Statement on Schedule TO originally filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) by Willis Lease Finance Corporation, a Delaware Corporation (the Company or WLFC), on November 17, 2015 (together with related exhibits, the Schedule TO), in connection with the offer by the Company to purchase for cash up to the aggregate purchase price not exceeding \$8 million in value up to 516,129 shares of its common stock, \$0.01 par value, at a per share price of not less than \$15.50 nor greater than \$18.00 per share upon the terms and subject to the conditions described in the Offer to Purchase, dated November 17, 2015 (the Offer to Purchase), a copy of which was filed herewith as Exhibit (a)(1)(A), and in the related Letter of Transmittal (the Letter of Transmittal, and together with the Offer to Purchase, as they may be amended or supplemented from time to time, the Tender Offer), a copy of which was filed herewith as Exhibit (a)(1)(B).

The purpose of this Amendment is to amend and supplement the Schedule TO. Only those items amended are reported in this Amendment. Except as specifically provided herein, the information contained in this Schedule TO, the Offer to Purchase and the Letter of Transmittal remains unchanged. This Amendment should be read in conjunction with the Schedule TO and the Tender Offer.

Item 8. Interest in Securities of the Subject Company.

The information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under Section 11 Interests of Directors and Executive Officers; Transactions and Arrangements Concerning the Shares Recent Securities Transactions is supplemented by adding at the end of the table thereunder an additional three rows and new footnotes as follows:

| Transaction Party | Date | Number of Shares | Price |
|---------------------------|-------------------|--|----------|
| Charles F. Willis, IV (6) | November 27, 2015 | 4,102 (return to issuer of previously restricted stock to satisfy withholding tax liability) | \$ 17.50 |
| Donald A. Nunemaker(7) | November 27, 2015 | 1,409 (return to issuer of previously restricted stock to satisfy withholding tax liability) | \$ 17.50 |
| Bradley Forsyth (8) | November 27, 2015 | 1,409 (return to issuer of previously restricted stock to satisfy withholding tax liability) | \$ 17.50 |

(6) As reported on a Form 4 filed with the SEC on November 30, 2015.

(7) As reported on a Form 4 filed with the SEC on November 30, 2015.

(8) As reported on a Form 4 filed with the SEC on November 30, 2015.

Item 11. Additional Information.

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Item 11 of the Schedule TO is hereby amended and supplemented by adding the following paragraph at the end thereof:

On December 17, 2015, the Company issued a press release announcing the preliminary results of the Tender Offer, which expired at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on December 16, 2015. Based on preliminary figures from the depositary, 643,821 shares were tendered and the Company elected to purchase all such shares. As set forth in the press release, the shares to be purchased include an estimated additional 127,692 shares that the Company intends to purchase in accordance with the optional purchase provisions of the offer. A copy of the press release is filed as Exhibit (a)(5)(C) to this Schedule TO and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 12. Exhibits.

Item 12 of the Schedule TO is hereby amended and supplemented by adding the following exhibit:

(a)(5)(C) Press release announcing the preliminary results of the Tender Offer, dated December 17, 2015

SIGNATURE

After due inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: December 17, 2015

WILLIS LEASE FINANCE CORPORATION

By:

/s/ CHARLES F. WILLIS, IV
Charles F. Willis, IV
Chief Executive Officer

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

| Exhibit Number | Description |
|-----------------------|---|
| (a)(1)(A)* | Offer to Purchase, dated November 17, 2015 |
| (a)(1)(B)* | Letter of Transmittal |
| (a)(1)(C)* | Notice of Guaranteed Delivery |
| (a)(1)(D)* | Letter to Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees, dated November 17, 2015 |
| (a)(1)(E)* | Letter to Clients, for use by Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees, dated November 17, 2015 |
| (a)(2) | None |
| (a)(3) | Not applicable |
| (a)(4) | Not applicable |
| (a)(5)(A)* | Press release announcing the Tender Offer, dated November 17, 2015 |
| (a)(5)(B)* | Email communication to employees, dated November 17, 2015 |
| (a)(5)(C) | Press release announcing the preliminary results of the Tender Offer, dated December 17, 2015 |
| (b)** | Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of June 4, 2014, among the Company, Union Bank, N.A., as administrative agent and security agent, and certain lenders and financial institutions named therein (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.16 to our report on Form 10-Q filed on August 11, 2014). |
| (d)(1) | Form of Indemnification Agreement entered into between the Registrant and its directors and officers (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Form 8-K filed on October 1, 2010). |
| (d)(2) | 1996 Stock Option/Stock Issuance Plan, as amended and restated as of March 1, 2003 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 from Form S-8 filed with the Commission on September 26, 2003) |
| (d)(3) | 2007 Stock Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Proxy Statement for 2007 Annual Meeting of Stockholders filed on April 30, 2007). |
| (d)(4) | Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Registrant and Charles F. Willis IV dated as of December 1, 2008 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Form 8-K filed on December 22, 2008). |
| (d)(5) | Employment Agreement between the Registrant and Donald A. Nunemaker dated November 21, 2000 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to our report on Form 10-K filed on April 2, 2001). |
| (d)(6) | Amendment to Employment Agreement between Registrant and Donald A. Nunemaker dated December 31, 2008 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to our report on Form 10-Q filed on May 9, 2011). |
| (d)(7) | Employment Agreement between the Registrant and Bradley S. Forsyth dated February 20, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to Form 8-K filed on February 21, 2007). |
| (d)(8) | Amendment to Employment Agreement between Registrant and Bradley S. Forsyth dated December 31, 2008 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to our report on Form 10-Q filed on May 9, 2011). |
| (d)(9) | Employment Agreement between the Registrant and Dean M. Poulakidas dated March 31, 2013 |

(incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.23 to Form 8-K filed on June 19, 2013).

(g) None

(h) None

* Previously filed.

** Portions of these exhibits have been omitted pursuant to a request for confidential treatment and the redacted material has been filed separately with the Commission.