

MERCANTILE BANK CORP  
 Form 4  
 November 18, 2016

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2015  
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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)  
**C/O MERCANTILE BANK CORPORATION, 310 LEONARD ST.**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**11/17/2016**

\_\_\_\_ Director  
 \_\_\_\_ Officer (give title below)  
 \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
**EVP AND CFO**

(Street)  
**GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504**

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

(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                    | 11/17/2016                           |  | A                              | 3,750 A \$ 0  | 28,011 <sup>(1)</sup>   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 358 <sup>(1)</sup>  | I  | By spouse                         |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 32,186 <sup>(2)</sup>   | I  | 401(k) Plan                       |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 1,489 <sup>(2)</sup>  | I  | 401(k) Plan for spouse            |

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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 |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code V (A) (D)                 |   | Date Exercisable Expiration Date                         | Title   |                            |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 36.22   | 11/17/2016                           |  | A                              | 1,000   | 11/17/2018 11/16/2023                                    | Common Stock  | 1,000                      |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 27.66   |                                      |  |                                |   | 11/19/2017 11/18/2022                                    | Common Stock  | 1,000                      |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 22.15   |                                      |  |                                |   | 11/13/2016 11/12/2021                                    | Common Stock  | 1,000                      |

## Reporting Owners

**Reporting Owner Name / Address**

**Relationships**

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

CHRISTMAS CHARLES E  
C/O MERCANTILE BANK CORPORATION  
310 LEONARD ST.  
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504

EVP AND CFO

## Signatures

/s/ Bradley J. Wyatt,  
Attorney-in-Fact

11/18/2016

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

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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