

BANCORPSOUTH INC  
Form 4  
September 23, 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 \*  
FREEMAN CATHY SMITH

(Last) (First) (Middle)

828 BRENTWOOD COVE

(Street)

OXFORD, MS 38655

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
BANCORPSOUTH INC [BXS]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
09/23/2008

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_X\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)

Senior Vice President and

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
\_X\_ 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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	09/23/2008		M		8,000	A	\$ 23.51
Common Stock	09/23/2008		M		10,000	A	\$ 23.19
Common Stock	09/23/2008		J		15,329 (1)	D	\$ 30.59
Common Stock	09/23/2008		S		2,671	D	\$ 30.59
Common Stock							10,002.4181
						I	by 401k Plan

Common Stock	3.9359	I	by Daughter
Common Stock	3.8961	I	by Son

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

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(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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 23.19	09/23/2008		M	10,000	<u>(2)</u> 11/30/2015	Common Stock	10,000
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 23.51	09/23/2008		M	8,000	<u>(2)</u> 10/31/2013	Common Stock	8,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
FREEMAN CATHY SMITH 828 BRENTWOOD COVE OXFORD, MS 38655			Senior Vice President and	

## Signatures

CATHY S. FREEMAN                      09/23/2008

\*\*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) Shares sold to cover option exercise price and/or tax liability of stock option exercised.
- (2) Employee stock option granted pursuant to BancorpSouth, Inc., 1994 Stock Incentive Plan. The stock option becomes exercisable in 3 equal annual instalments commencing one year after date of grant.

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.