

SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC
 Form 4
 December 17, 2008

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

OMB APPROVAL
 OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 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 *
 SHAMBURGER JULIE

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC [SBSI]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)
 ___ Director ___ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)
 Sr Vice President & Controller

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC, 1201 SOUTH BECKHAM
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/17/2008

TYLER, TX 75701
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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

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 or Indirectly 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) | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|---|---------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | | | |
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | | | |
| Common Stock | 12/17/2008 | | M | 1,300 | A | \$ 5.42 | 10,972 | D | |
| Common Stock | 12/17/2008 | | S | 1,300 | D | \$ 20.99 | 9,672 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 17 | I | Self Cust./Daughter |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 17 | I | Self Cust./Son ML |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 17 | I | Self Cust/Son DK |

Common Stock 1,610.12 I by ESOP

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

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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) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Incentive Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 5.42 | 12/17/2008 | | M | 1,300 | <u>(1)</u> 06/10/2009 | Common Stock | 1,300 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| SHAMBURGER JULIE SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC 1201 SOUTH BECKHAM TYLER, TX 75701 | | | Sr Vice President & Controller | |

Signatures

Julie Shamburger 12/17/2008

**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) Vested 20% per year and became fully exercisable 06/10/2004.

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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