

SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC
 Form 5
 January 13, 2009

FORM 5

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

OMB APPROVAL

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ANNUAL 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
HARTLEY BG

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES
 INC, 1201 SOUTH BECKHAM**

(Street)

TYLER, TX 75701

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)
 12/31/2008

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 Director, COB & CEO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	01/02/2008	^	I ⁽¹⁾	209.32 A \$ 7.01	3,025.83	I	By ESOP for Spouse
Common Stock	03/25/2008	^	J ⁽²⁾	101.26 A \$ 22.33	18,940.39	I	By Spouse/Sep. Prop.
Common Stock	06/12/2008	^	J ⁽²⁾	131.91 A \$ 19.6	20,019.3195	I	By Spouse/Sep. Prop.

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Common Stock	09/11/2008	Â	J ⁽²⁾	132.47	A	\$ 24.18	20,151.7895	I	By Spouse/Sep. Prop.
Common Stock	12/11/2008	Â	J ⁽²⁾	196.15	A	\$ 19.52	20,347.9395	I	By Spouse/Sep. Prop.
Common Stock	01/02/2008	Â	I ⁽¹⁾	1,186.29	A	\$ 7.01	17,150.63	I	by ESOP
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	164,079	D	Â

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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. of D Se B O E Is Fi (I
					(A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
HARTLEY BG SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC 1201 SOUTH BECKHAM TYLER, TX 75701	Â X	Â	Â Director, COB & CEO	Â

Signatures

B. G. Hartley 01/13/2009

**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) ESOP allocation for plan year ending 12-31-07

(2) Shares acquired pursuant to Southside Bancshares, Inc. Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.