Ottinger Eric H Form 4 January 02, 2018

FORM 4

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

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

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Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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(b).

(Last)

(City)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Ottinger Eric H

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP

[LKFN]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 01/01/2018

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Middle)

X_ Officer (give title below)

10% Owner Other (specify

Director

Executive Vice President

LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORPORATION, P.O. BOX 1387

(State)

(Zip)

(First)

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

WARSAW, IN 46581-1387

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)	Disposed (Instr. 3, 4	(A) of (D) 4 and (A) or) 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	(D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		

Common Stock

21,500 D

Common Stock

401)k2,522 I Plan

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)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amoun or Number of Shares
Restricted Stock Units (1)	\$ 0 (2)	01/01/2018		A	5,700	02/01/2021	02/01/2021(3)	Common Stock	5,700
Restricted Stock Units (1)	\$ 0 (2)					02/01/2018	02/01/2018(3)	Common Stock	6,000
Restricted Stock Units (1)	\$ 0 (2)					02/01/2019	02/01/2019(3)	Common Stock	6,000
Restricted Stock Units (1)	\$ 0 (2)					02/01/2020	02/01/2020(3)	Common Stock	5,400

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
4	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Ottinger Eric H LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORPORATION P.O. BOX 1387 WARSAW, IN 46581-1387			Executive Vice President			

Signatures

Teresa A. Bartman,
Attorney-in-Fact

**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) The Restricted Stock Units are subject to forfeiture based on corporate performance criteria.

Reporting Owners 2

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- (2) Each Restricted Stock Unit exercises into 1 share of Common Stock.
- (3) Restricted Stock Unit awards are a conditional promise to transfer a share at a specific futurue date and do not have an expiration date.

 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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