SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC

Form 4

December 17, 2008

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

Issuer

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES** Form 4 or

Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

Symbol

[SBSI]

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

SHAMBURGER JULIE

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

(Last) (First) (Middle) SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC, 1201 SOUTH BECKHAM			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/17/2008					Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below) Sr Vice President & Controller			
TYLER, T	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 Person					
(City)	(State)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Benef						eficially Owned			
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemec Execution Dany (Month/Day	Date, if	3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) (A) or Code V Amount (D) Price				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)	
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	

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC

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Common 1,610.12 Ι by ESOP Stock

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number on 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 E S (
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Incentive Stock Option (right to	\$ 5.42	12/17/2008		M	1,300	<u>(1)</u>	06/10/2009	Common Stock	1,300	

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SHAMBURGER JULIE SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC 1201 SOUTH BECKHAM **TYLER, TX 75701**

Sr Vice President & Controller

Signatures

Julie

buy)

Shamburger 12/17/2008 **Signature of Date

Reporting Person

Reporting Owners 2

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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. 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.