

WINTRUST FINANCIAL CORP
 Form 4
 January 26, 2015

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 *
BOWDEN LLOYD M

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 9700 WEST HIGGINS ROAD, 8TH FLOOR
 (Street)

ROSEMONT, IL 60018

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
WINTRUST FINANCIAL CORP [WTFC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 01/22/2015

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)
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
				Code V	Amount		
Common Stock	01/22/2015		A	700	A \$ 0 ⁽¹⁾	34,681	D
Common Stock	01/22/2015		M	3,500	A \$ 33.06	38,181	D
Common Stock	01/22/2015		F	2,941	D \$ 44.15	35,240	D

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

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displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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)				
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 44.11	01/22/2015		A	4,093	(2)		01/22/2022		Common Stock	4
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 33.06	01/22/2015		M	3,500	(3)		01/24/2015		Common Stock	3

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BOWDEN LLOYD M 9700 WEST HIGGINS ROAD, 8TH FLOOR ROSEMONT, IL 60018			EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT	

Signatures

/s/Lisa J. Pattis,
Attorney-in-fact

01/26/2015

__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) Represents stock awarded upon attainment of performance objectives under the Company's Long Term Incentive Program.
- (2) Option shares granted in conjunction with award under the Company's Long Term Incentive Program. Option shares vest at a rate of one-third on each of the first three anniversaries of the date of grant.
- (3) Option shares granted in conjunction with award under the Company's Stock Incentive Plan. Award shares vested at a rate of one-fifth each of the first five anniversaries of the 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.