

BURNS JAMES D
Form 3
March 26, 2009

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *

Â BURNS JAMES D
(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O ISTAR
FINANCIAL,Â 1114 AVE OF
THE AMERICAS 39TH FLR
(Street)

NEW YORK,Â NYÂ 10036
(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement

(Month/Day/Year)
03/26/2009

3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ISTAR FINANCIAL INC [SFI]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer Other
(give title below) (specify below)
Chief Financial Officer

5. 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 Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|---|--|---|
| Common Stock, \$.001 par value per share | 6,180 (1) (2) (3) | D | Â |
| Common Stock, \$.001 par value per share | 1,255 (1) (2) (3) | I | By IRA |

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security | 4. Conversion or Exercise | 5. Ownership Form of | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|----------------------|---|
|--|--|--|---------------------------|----------------------|---|

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| Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | (Instr. 4) | Amount or Number of Shares | Price of Derivative Security | Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) |
|------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| | | Title | | | |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| BURNS JAMES D C/O ISTAR FINANCIAL 1114 AVE OF THE AMERICAS 39TH FLR NEW YORK, NY 10036 | Â | Â | Â Chief Financial Officer | Â |

Signatures

s/ JAMES D
BURNS

03/26/2009

Signature of
Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).

The Reporting Person also owns 55,459 Restricted Stock Units ("Units") that have not yet vested, representing the right to receive an equivalent number of shares of iStar common stock if and when the Units vest. Units that are not vested may not be sold, transferred or pledged except by will, the laws of descent or to or for the benefit of the Reporting Person's family. In addition, if the Reporting Person voluntarily terminates employment with iStar, or iStar terminates the Reporting Person's employment for cause (as defined in the award), any unvested Units will be forfeited automatically as of the date of termination of employment.

Of the total number of Units held by the Reporting Person, 53,146 Units vest over time if the Reporting Person is employed on the applicable vesting date: 833 Units are unvested from an award dated January 19, 2007 and will vest in January 2010; 2,313 Units are unvested from an award dated January 18, 2008 and will vest in January 2010 (1,157 Units) and in January 2011 (1,156 Units); and 50,000 Units are unvested from an award dated October 9, 2008 and will "cliff" vest in one installment on October 9, 2011. The Reporting Person is entitled to receive common stock dividend equivalent payments on these unvested Units from the award date.

The remaining 2,313 Units ("Performance Vest Units") held by the Reporting Person were awarded January 18, 2008 and will "cliff" vest in one installment on December 31, 2010 if (a) iStar common stock has achieved a total shareholder return of 20%, compounded annually, over the vesting period commencing on the award date and (b) the Reporting Person is employed on the vesting date. The Reporting Person is not entitled to receive common stock dividend equivalent payments on the unvested Performance Vest Units.

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.