

ZIDAR THOMAS P  
Form 4  
January 30, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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 \*  
ZIDAR THOMAS P

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
640 WAGNER ROAD  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
01/26/2012

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Executive Vice President

GLENVIEW, IL 60025

4. 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

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (A) or (D) Price   |   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 01/26/2012                           |  | A                              | 1,421 A \$ 0 (1)  | 28,216  | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 3,540   | I  | By ESPP                           |

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

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(9-02)

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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) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)  | \$ 30.975  | 01/26/2012                           |  | A                              | 3,482   | <u>(2)</u> 01/26/2019                                    | Common Stock  | 3,482                      |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                          | Relationships |           |                          |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                  | Other |
| ZIDAR THOMAS P<br>640 WAGNER ROAD<br>GLENVIEW, IL 60025 |               |           | Executive Vice President |       |

## Signatures

/s/David A. Dykstra,  
Attorney-in-Fact

01/30/2012

\_\_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) Restricted Stock Units granted under the Company's Stock Incentive Plan - Shares become fully vested one year from the date of grant and will be converted into unrestricted shares of Common Stock within 40 days subsequent to the vesting date.
- (2) Option shares granted in conjunction with award under the Company's Long-term Incentive program. Award shares vest at a rate of one-third on each of the first three 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.

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