FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Washington, I | D.C. | 20549 |
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| STATEMENT | OF CHANGES | IN BENEFICIAL | OWNERSHIP |
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| | hours per response: | 0.5 |

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* $\underline{Evans\ Daniel\ F}$ | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP [LKFN] | | | | | | | | | | neck all | tionship of Reporting all applicable) Director | | ıg Pei | Person(s) to Issuer 10% Owner | |
|---|---|--|---|--------------------|---|--|------|------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|--|--------|--|--|
| (Last) 330 W 6 | ` | rst) (| (Middle) | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/08/2016 | | | | | | | | | | Officer (give title below) | | | | Other (below) | specify |
| (Street) INDIANAPOLIS IN 46260 | | | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | 6. I | e) <mark>X</mark> F F | ′ | | | | | |
| (City) | (S | | (Zip) | Doring | ative | | i4i | | | ired C | vi o r | | of out | 2000 | ficial | U. O. | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Trans Date | | | | 2. Trans | action 2A. Deemed Execution Day/Year) 2A. Deemed Execution Date if any (Month/Day/Year) | | | 3. Transa Code (| | 4. Secution Dispos | | rities Acc | uired | (A) or | 5. Se Be Ov | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | (| Code V | | Amoun | Amount (A) | | Price | e Transa (Instr. 3 | | ction(s) 3 and 4) | | | | | | | |
| Common Stock 07/12/2016 A 625 A \$0 9,648 | | | | | | | D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | T. | able II - [) | Derivat e.g., p | | | | | | | | | | | | Own | ed | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemee Execution I if any (Month/Day | Date, | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | n of | | Expi | ate Exerciration D nth/Day/ | ate | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Secu (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | Deriva Securi | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficiall Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4) | ly | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | Cod | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exer | e rcisable | Ex Da | piration te | Title | or Nu of | ımber | | | | | | |
| Phantom Stock | (1) | 07/08/2016 | | | A | | 471 | | | (2) | | (3) | Commo Stock | n 2 | 471 | \$46.6 | 176 | 7,494 | | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Each Phantom stock unit exercises into 1 share of common Stock
- 2. Phantom stock is exercisable after the directors' retirement as a Board member.
- 3. Phantom shares expire after the directors' retirement as a Board member.

Teresa A. Bartman, Attorneyin-Fact

07/12/2016

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- * 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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 Number.