FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Washington, D	.C. 20549
---------------	-----------

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP 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

OMB APPROVAL											
OMB Number:	3235-0287										
Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5											
hours per response:	0.5										

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* Smith Brian J				LA	2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP [ LKFN ]								Relationship neck all app X Direc	licable)	porting Person(s) to Issuer 10% Owner		
(Last)	(Fi	rst) (	(Middle)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/06/2023								Office below	er (give title v)		Other (s below)	pecify
LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORPORATION P.O. BOX 1387			4. I	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person					
(Street) WARSAW IN 46581-1387												Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
(City)	(9)	tate) (	(Zip)	− Rι	ule 1	.0b5	5-1(c) Transaction Indication										
(City)	(3)	late)	(ΖΙΡ)		Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Inst												
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																	
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Da					Execution [		n Date	Code (I	Transaction Disposed Of (D) (In Code (Instr. 5)			Benefic Owned	ies ially Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
							Code	v	Amount	t (A) or Pi		Reporte Transa (Instr. 3	ction(s)			Instr. 4)	
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)		Transaction Code (Instr.		of E		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	у	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable		xpiration ate	Title	Amount or Number of Shares					
Phantom Stock	(1)	11/06/2023		A		156		(2)		(3)	Common Stock	156	\$53.1485	18,129		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.

/s/ Becka J. Turnbow, Attorney-in-Fact

11/07/2023

\*\* 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.