FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| ashington, | D.C. | 20549 |  |
|------------|------|-------|--|
|            |      |       |  |

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

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

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

| Name and Address of Reporting Person*     Donovan James Rickard  |   |         |                 |   | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP [ LKFN ]   |   |   |  |                  |        |  | (Ch   | eck all app<br>Direc  | nship of Reporting<br>applicable)<br>Director<br>Officer (give title |  | g Person(s) to Issuer<br>10% Owner<br>Other (speci |  |  |  |
|--|---|---------|-----------------|---|--|---|---|--|------------------|--------|--|-------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| (Last)   | (Fii<br>X 1387  | st) (M  | Middle)         |   |  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/06/2024 |   |  |                  |        |  |       |   | belov  | below) below) SVP, General Counsel   |  |  |  |  |
| (Street) WARSA   | W IN  | 4       | 6581-1          | 387                                     | 4. If A  | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)    |   |  |                  |        |  | Line  | i. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicabine)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting |  |  |  | on   |  |  |
| (City)   | (St   | ate) (Z | Zip)            |   | Rule 10b5-1(c) Transaction Indication  Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Ir |   |   |  |                  |        |  |       |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned    |         |                 |   |  |   |   |  |                  |        |  |       |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Da   |   |         | Execution Date, |   | Date,  |   |   | es Acquired (A) or<br>Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 an |                  |        |  |       | Forn<br>(D) o   | n: Direct<br>or Indirect<br>nstr. 4)                                 | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership  |  |  |  |  |
|  |   |         |                 |   |  |   |   | Code   | v                | Amount | (A)<br>(D)   | or    | Price   |  | ction(s)   |  |  | (Instr. 4)   |  |
| Common Stock 02/06/2   |   |         |                 |   | 2024   |   |   | A  |                  | 1,013  | A  |       | \$ <mark>0</mark>   | 0 10,518   |  |  | D  |  |  |
| Common Stock   |   |         |                 |   |  |   |   |  |                  |        |  |       | 1,062   |  |  |  | 401(k)<br>Plan   |  |  |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |   |         |                 |   |  |   |   |  |                  |        |  |       |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)  | rivative Conversion Date Execution Date, curity or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any |         |                 | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8) |  | of<br>Deriv   | vative<br>irities<br>ired<br>r<br>osed<br>) | Expiration Da<br>(Month/Day/Y                |                  | te     | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr<br>3 and 4) |       |   | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)                  | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficiall<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactio<br>(Instr. 4) | у  | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |
|  |   |         |                 |   | Code   | v   | (A)   |  | Date<br>Exercisa | able   | Expiration<br>Date   | Title | Amo<br>or<br>Num<br>of<br>Shar  | - 1  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Explanation of Responses:** 

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

02/07/2024

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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.