

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

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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* <u>Ottinger Eric H</u> <hr/> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>12133 EAGLE CREEK PLACE</u> <hr/> (Street) <u>FORT WAYNE IN 46814</u> <hr/> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) <u>04/20/2009</u>	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP [LKFN]</u> <hr/> 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>Senior Vice President</u>	5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) <hr/> 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
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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)

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 (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date				
Restricted Stock Units ⁽²⁾	03/15/2012	03/15/2012 ⁽¹⁾	Common Stock	2,000	0	D
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	05/08/2006	05/08/2011	Common Stock	2,000	7	D
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	12/09/2008	12/09/2013	Common Stock	3,000	17.185	D
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	10/11/2010	10/11/2015	Common Stock	6,000	19.595	D
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	05/14/2013	05/14/2018	Common Stock	3,000	24.05	D

Explanation of Responses:

1. Restricted Stock Unit awards are a conditional promise to transfer a share at a specific future date and do not have an expiration date.

2. The Restricted Stock Units are subject to forfeiture based on corporate performance criteria.

Teresa A. Bartman, Attorney-in-Fact 04/27/2009

** 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 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).

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.