

BIRMINGHAM MARTIN KEARNEY
Form 4
February 18, 2011

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
BIRMINGHAM MARTIN KEARNEY

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS INC [FISI]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
220 LIBERTY STREET
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/16/2011

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Executive Vice President

WARSAW, NY 14569

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 02/16/2011 | | A | 1,663 (1) | A \$ 0 19,997 | D | |

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

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 control number.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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| 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) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Nu... |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------------------------|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| BIRMINGHAM MARTIN KEARNEY 220 LIBERTY STREET WARSAW, NY 14569 | | | Executive Vice President | |

Signatures

Michael D. Grover for Martin K.
Birmingham

02/18/2011

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) Represents a grant of restricted stock pursuant to the Company's 2009 Management Stock Incentive Plan. The award vests on February 16, 2013, subject to the participant's continued employment with the Company and subject to accelerated vesting upon the death of the participant. However, as long as the Company is a "TARP recipient," as defined under the Interim Final Rules, the award may become transferable only in 25% increments at the time of the Company's repayment of 25%, 50%, 75% and 100%, respectively, of the financial assistance it received under the U.S. Treasury's Capital Purchase Program, or as may be required to satisfy tax obligations incurred in connection with the vesting of the restricted shares.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.