

TOMPKINS FINANCIAL CORP  
 Form 4  
 September 21, 2009

**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 \*  
**FULMER JAMES W**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**TOMPKINS FINANCIAL CORP  
 [TMP]**

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**TOMPKINS FINANCIAL CORPORATION, P O BOX 460**  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**09/17/2009**

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 Vice Chairman

**ITHACA, NY 14851**

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

**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 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)  | Code V Amount (D) Price   |  |                                   |

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.**

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

| 1. Title of Derivative | 2. Conversion | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if | 4. Transaction | 5. Number of Derivative | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date | 7. Title and Amount Underlying Securities |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---|---|
|------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---|---|

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| Security (Instr. 3)             | or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | any (Month/Day/Year) | Code (Instr. 8) | Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 3 and 4) |              |                            |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------|---|------------------|------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
|                                 |  |                      | Code V          | (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date  | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Stock Appreciation Rights (SAR) | \$ 45.88                                 | 09/17/2009           | A               | 10,000  | (1)              | 09/17/2019       | Common Stock | 10,000                     |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |               |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer       | Other |
| FULMER JAMES W<br>TOMPKINS FINANCIAL CORPORATION<br>P O BOX 460<br>ITHACA, NY 14851 | X             |           | Vice Chairman |       |

## Signatures

/s/ James W. Fulmer 09/18/2009

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).
- Stock Appreciation Rights (SARs) were granted pursuant to the Tompkins Financial Corporation 2009 Equity Plan. They become exercisable in six annual installments commencing two years after the grant date, and when exercised, SARs will be settled in Common Stock of the Company.

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.