

SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC
 Form 4
 December 22, 2008

FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL
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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 *
GIBSON LEE R

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC [SBSI]

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)
SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC, 1201 SOUTH BECKHAM
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
12/22/2008

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

TYLER, TX 75701
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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 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	12/22/2008		G	V	1,250	D	\$ 21.6	561	D	
Common Stock								8,636.31	I	by ESOP

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

