#### HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA INC

Form 4

January 23, 2017

## FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

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response...

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person ** FULLER LYNN B			2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
				HEAR? INC [H		FINANCIAL USA	(Cho	eck all applica	ble)
	(Last)	(First) (I	Middle)	3. Date o	f Earliest T	ransaction	_X_ Director		0% Owner
				(Month/I	Day/Year)		X Officer (gi below)	below)	mer (specify
	1398 CENT	TRAL AVE.		01/19/2	.017		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	hairman & CE	0
(Street)				4. If Amendment, Date Original			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
				Filed(Mo	nth/Day/Yea	r)	Applicable Line)		
							_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting		
	DUBUQUI	E, IA 52001					Person	More than One	Reporting
	(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tab	le I - Non-l	Derivative Securities Acc	quired, Disposed	of, or Benefic	ially Owned
	1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deen	ned	3.	4. Securities Acquired	5. Amount of	6.	7. Nature of
	Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution	Date, if	Transactio	or(A) or Disposed of (D)	Securities	Ownership	Indirect
	(Instr. 3)	•	any		Code	(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	Beneficially	Form:	Beneficial
			(Month/D	ay/Year)	(Instr. 8)		Owned	Direct (D)	Ownership
							Following	or Indirect	(Instr. 4)
						(A)	Reported	(I) (Instr. 4)	

Security (Instr. 3)	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	nstr. 8) (A) or		Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Common Stock			Code	Amount	(D)	THEC	580,995	I	As Trustee
Common Stock	01/19/2017		M	1,587	A	\$ 46.25	582,582	I	As Trustee
Common Stock	01/20/2017		M	1,925	A	\$ 46.85	584,507	I	As Trustee
Common Stock							5,000	I	Spouses Trust (2)
Common Stock							301,616	I	Family LLLP (3)

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Common Stock	123,078	I	As Trustee (4)
Common Stock	12,188	I	HTLF Retirement Plan (5)
Common Stock	0	D	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

 $\label{thm:convergence} \begin{tabular}{ll} Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned \\ (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) \end{tabular}$ 

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. 5. Number Transaction Derivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securities
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
2013 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(6)</u>					<u>(7)</u>	<u>(7)</u>	Common Stock	3,850
2013 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(6)</u>	01/20/2017	01/23/2017	F	1,925	<u>(7)</u>	<u>(7)</u>	Common Stock	1,925
2014 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(6)</u>					<u>(8)</u>	<u>(8)</u>	Common Stock	5,200
2015 Performance Based Restricted Stock	<u>(6)</u>					<u>(9)</u>	(9)	Common Stock	3,500
	<u>(6)</u>					(10)	(10)		5,000

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2015 Time-Based Restricted Stock							Common Stock	
2016 Performance Based Restricted Stock (1-year performance)	<u>(6)</u>				(11)	<u>(11)</u>	Common Stock	5,300
2016 Performance Based Restricted Stock (3-year performance)	<u>(6)</u>				(12)	(12)	Common Stock	2,524
2016 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(6)</u>				(13)	(13)	Common Stock	4,760
2016 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(6)</u>	01/19/2017	F	1,587	(13)	<u>(13)</u>	Common Stock	3,173
2017 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(6)				(14)	(14)	Common Stock	3,455

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
• 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
FULLER LYNN B 1398 CENTRAL AVE. DUBUQUE, IA 52001	X		Chairman & CEO			

# **Signatures**

/s/ Lynn B. Fuller	01/23/2017			
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date			

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## **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) These shares are held by Lynn B. Fuller Trust Under Agreement dated 5-7-96, Lynn B. Fuller Trustee
- (2) These shares are held by Cynthia A Fuller Declaration of Trust under agreement dated 7/2/2015, Cynthia A Fuller, Trustee
- (3) These shares are held by LBF Heartland Partnership LLLC Lynn B Fuller is the General Partner. Wife and two (2) adult sons are Limited Partners.
- (4) These shares held by Emma O. Fuller Trust dated 9-3-85 Dubuque Bank & Trust, Lynn B Fuller, Trustee
- (5) Represents shares allocated to the reporting person's account under the Heartland Financial USA, Inc. Retirement Plan as a result of the Pension Plan Protectin Act of 2006.
- (6) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Issuer's common stock.
- (7) Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest on 1-22-2016, 1/3 vest on 1-22-2017, and 1/3 vest on 1-22-2018.
- (8) Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest on 3-11-2017, 1/3 vest on 3-11-2018, and 1/3 vest on 3-11-2019.
- (9) These restricted stock units vest on 1-18-2018 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (10) Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest on 1-20-2018, 1/3 vest on 1-20-2019, and 1/3 vest on 1-20-2020.
- (11) These restricted stock units vest on 1-19-2019 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (12) These restricted stock units vest in 2019 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (13) Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest on 1-19-2017, 1/3 vest on 1-19-2018, and 1/3 vest on 1-19-2019.
- (14) Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest in 01-2018, 1/3 vest in 01-2019 and 1/3 vest in 01-2020.

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.