

SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC  
 Form 3  
 February 24, 2009

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * |         |          | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement | 3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol |  |
| Â SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC                |         |          | (Month/Day/Year)                     | SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC [SBSI]                    |  |
| (Last)                                    | (First) | (Middle) |                                      | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer   | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)       |
| PO BOX 1079                               |         |          |                                      | (Check all applicable)                             | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) |
| (Street)                                  |         |          |                                      | ___ Director ___ 10% Owner                         | ___X___ Form filed by One Reporting Person                 |
| TYLER,Â TXÂ 75710                         |         |          |                                      | ___X___ Officer ___ Other (specify below)          | ___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person           |
| (City)                                    | (State) | (Zip)    |                                      | EVP / Treasurer                                    |  |

**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) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Southside Bancshares, Inc.      | 2,291   | D  | Â   |

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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**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 of Derivative Security: Direct (D) | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|
|--|--|---|--|--|---|

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| Date<br>Exercisable | Expiration<br>Date | Amount or<br>Number of<br>Shares | or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 5) |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                             | Relationships |           |                   |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer           | Other |
| SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC<br>PO BOX 1079<br>TYLER, TX 75710 | Â             | Â         | Â EVP / Treasurer | Â     |

## Signatures

Michael L. Coogan                      02/24/2009

                              Date  
\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* 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. 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.