MCCABE DOUGLAS L

Form 4

November 29, 2004

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB

3235-0287 Number:

OMB APPROVAL

January 31, Expires: 2005

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Check this box

Form 5 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 * MCCABE DOUGLAS L | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS INC [FISI] | | | | s | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | |
|--|---|----------|---|--|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|
| (Last) 220 LIBER | (First) CTY STREET | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/26/2004 | | | _ | Director 10% Owner _X Officer (give title Other (specify below) Sr Vice President | | | |
| WARSAW | Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | | - - | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | Tab | le I - Non- | Derivative | Secu | rities Acqui | ired, Disposed of, | or Beneficial | y Owned |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | | n Date, if | 3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | omr Dispos (Instr. 3, | sed of | | 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock | 11/26/2004 | | | M | 5,000 | A | \$ 21.35 | 7,023 | D | |
| Common Stock | 11/26/2004 | | | S | 5,000 | D | \$ 24.9248 | 2,023 | D | |

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

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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 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 on 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. De Sec (In |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--------------------|---|--|---------------------|
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | |
| Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 21.35 | 11/26/2004 | | M | 5,000 | <u>(1)</u> | 05/01/2011 | Common Stock | 5,000 | 24 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| 1 0 | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | | |
| MCCABE DOUGLAS L | | | | | | | | |
| 220 LIBERTY STREET | | | Sr Vice President | | | | | |
| WARSAW, NY 14569 | | | | | | | | |

Signatures

Sonia M. Dumbleton for Doug L.
McCabe

11/29/2004

**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) The option vested in three equal annual installments on May 1, 2002, 2003 and 2004.

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.

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