#### HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA INC

Form 4

January 19, 2017

### FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

**OMB** Number:

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

**OMB APPROVAL** 

response...

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

See Instruction

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

Townsend Andrew E

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*

Townsend F	Alidiew E		Symbol HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA INC [HTLF]				USA	(Check all applicable)			
(Last) 1398 CENT	(First)	(Middle)	(Month/D	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)				Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below)			
1398 CENT	RAL AVE		12/30/20	12/30/2016				EVP, Chief Credit Officer			
	(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original 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		
DUBUQUE	t, IA 52001							Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tabl	e I - Non-I	Perivative	Secur	ities Acq	uired, Disposed o	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction E (Month/Day/Ye	ar) Execution	emed on Date, if /Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securi on(A) or D (Instr. 3,	ispose 4 and (A) or	d of (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		
Common Stock								20,938	D (1)		
Common Stock	12/30/2016			A	186 (2)	A	\$ 31.68	21,124	D (1)		
Common Stock	01/17/2017			M	397	A	\$ 45.75	21,521	D (1)		
Common Stock	01/18/2017			M	711	A	\$ 46.4	22,232	D (1)		
Common Stock								1,163	I	401(k)	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Nur orof Der Securi Acqui (A) or Dispos (D) (Instr. and 5)	rivative ities red sed of 3, 4,	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
2012 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(3)</u>						<u>(4)</u>	<u>(4)</u>	Common Stock	625
2012 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(3)</u>	01/17/2017		F		625	<u>(4)</u>	<u>(4)</u>	Common Stock	0
2013 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(3)						<u>(5)</u>	<u>(5)</u>	Common Stock	933
2014 Performance Based Restricted Stock	(3)						<u>(6)</u>	<u>(6)</u>	Common Stock	1,119
2014 Performance Based Restricted Stock	(3)	01/18/2017		F		1,119	(6)	(6)	Common Stock	0
2014 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(3)						<u>(7)</u>	<u>(7)</u>	Common Stock	1,250

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2015 Performance Based Restricted Stock	<u>(3)</u>	<u>(8)</u>	<u>(8)</u>	Common Stock	875
2015 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(3)	<u>(9)</u>	<u>(9)</u>	Common Stock	1,250
2016 Performance Based Restricted Stock (1-year performance)	(3)	<u>(10)</u>	(10)	Common Stock	1,379
2016 Performance Based Restricted Stock (3-year performance)	(3)	<u>(10)</u>	(10)	Common Stock	657
2016 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(3)</u>	(12)	<u>(12)</u>	Common Stock	2,000 (13)
2016 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(3)</u>	(12)	<u>(12)</u>	Common Stock	1,239
2017 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(3)	(14)	<u>(14)</u>	Common Stock	1,033

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
•	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
Townsend Andrew E 1398 CENTRAL AVE DUBUQUE, IA 52001			EVP, Chief Credit Officer				

## **Signatures**

/s/ Andrew E Townsend 01/19/2017

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\*\*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) These shares are held in Jt. Ten.
- (2) These shares were acquired through the Company's Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
- (3) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Issuer's common stock.
- (4) Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest on 1-17-2015, 1/3 vest on 1-17-2016, and 1/3 vest on 1-17-2017.
- (5) 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.
- (6) These restricted stock units vest on 1-18-2017 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (7) 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.
- (8) These restricted stock units vest on 1-18-2018 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (9) 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.
- (10) These restricted stock units vest in 2019 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (11) Reflects the addition of 65 shares earned in 2016 based on exceeding target performance metrics.
- (12) 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.
- (13) These restricted stock units were granted outside of the annual awarding of restricted stock units due to employment change.
- (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.

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