SOUTHERN FIRST BANCSHARES INC

Form 4

February 11, 2014

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

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0.5

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obligations

Check this box

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

may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Dowling Michael D

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Issuer

Symbol

SOUTHERN FIRST BANCSHARES INC [SFST]

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)

Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) below)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

P.O. BOX 17465

01/20/2014

Chief Financial Officer 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Instr. 8)

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

GREENVILLE, SC 29606

(City) (State) (Zip)

(Street)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

(Middle)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (T)

(Instr. 4)

(Instr. 4)

Following Reported

Transaction(s)

Code V Amount (D) Price

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

(A)

(Instr. 3 and 4)

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

(Month/Day/Year)

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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 Conversion Security or Exercise

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if any

4. 5. Number of TransactionDerivative Code Securities

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

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(Instr. 3) Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) Derivative or Disposed of Security (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) Code V (A) (D) Date Exercisable Expiration Title Amount Date or Number of Share Stock options Common $01/21/2015_{\underline{(1)}}$ 01/21/2024\$ 13.43 01/21/2014 10,000 A 10,000 (right to stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Dowling Michael D

buy)

P.O. BOX 17465 Chief Financial Officer

GREENVILLE, SC 29606

Signatures

Michael D. Dowling, /s/Julie A
Fairchild

02/11/2014

**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) Stock options vest equally over 4 years.

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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