

CARSTENS JOHN ALBERT  
 Form 3  
 October 06, 2010

**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 CARSTENS JOHN ALBERT		(Month/Day/Year)	WINTRUST FINANCIAL CORP [WTFEC]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	09/30/2010	
727 NORTH BANK LANE			4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
(Street)			(Check all applicable)	
LAKE FOREST,Â ILÂ 60045			<input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person
			(give title below) (specify below)	<input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
			Executive Vice President	

**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)
COMMON STOCK	21,816	D	Â
COMMON STOCK	1,386	I	FBO minor children

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

**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	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Security	Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	01/22/2007	01/22/2012	Common Stock	1,999	\$ 18.8133	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	12/14/2012 <sup>(1)</sup>	12/14/2014	Common Stock	6,500	\$ 33.18	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	12/22/2008	12/22/2013	Common Stock	1,780	\$ 45.46	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	07/26/2010	07/26/2015	Common Stock	60,000	\$ 55.105	D	Â

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CARSTENS JOHN ALBERT 727 NORTH BANK LANE LAKE FOREST, IL 60045	Â	Â	Â Executive Vice President	Â

## Signatures

/s/David A. Dykstra,  
Attorney-in-Fact

10/05/2010

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person                      Date

## 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).
- (1) The options become exercisable at a rate of 20% per year following the date of grant.

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### Remarks:

Exhibit 24 - Power of Attorney

Reporting Person was identified by the Company as a Section 16 reporting person as of September 2010.

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.