

SOUTHERN FIRST BANCSHARES INC  
Form 8-K  
March 17, 2016

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT  
TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported) March 15, 2016

**Southern First Bancshares, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**South Carolina**

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

**000-27719**

(Commission File Number)

**58-2459561**

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**100 Verdae Boulevard, Suite 100, Greenville, SC**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**29606**

(Zip Code)

**(864)679-9000**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Not Applicable**

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))



**ITEM 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

On March 15, 2016, William B. Sturgis, 81, announced his retirement from his position as a director of Southern First Bancshares, Inc. (the Company ) and Southern First Bank (the Bank ) upon expiration of his current term at the Company's 2016 shareholder meeting. Mr. Sturgis' retirement did not arise or result from any disagreement with the Company on any matters relating to the Company's operations, policies, or practices. Mr. Sturgis has been a director since the formation of the Company in 1999. The Company is appreciative for Mr. Sturgis' years of dedicated service to the Company and Bank.

The Company does not anticipate immediately filling the vacancy on the board caused by Mr. Sturgis' retirement.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**SOUTHERN FIRST BANCSHARES, INC.**

By: /s/ Michael D. Dowling  
Name: Michael D. Dowling  
Title: Chief Financial Officer

March 17, 2016

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