

CHEMICAL FINANCIAL CORP
Form DEFA14A
April 08, 2015

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material under Rule 14a-12

CHEMICAL FINANCIAL CORPORATION

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

(Name of person(s) filing proxy statement, if other than the registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

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UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 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): **April 8, 2015**

Chemical Financial Corporation

(Exact Name of Registrant as

Specified in its Charter)

Michigan **000-08185** **38-2022454**

(State or Other Jurisdiction (Commission (IRS Employer
of Incorporation) File Number) Identification No.)

235 E. Main Street

48640

Midland, Michigan

(Zip Code)

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(989) 839-5350**

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)

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- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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Item 8.01 Other Events.

Reference is made to Chemical Financial Corporation's (the "Corporation") definitive proxy statement ("Proxy Statement") for its 2015 annual meeting of shareholders filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 6, 2015. Pursuant to the Proxy Statement, the board of directors of the Corporation is soliciting proxies with respect to various proposals to be acted upon at the annual meeting, including a proposal to amend the Corporation's Restated Articles of Incorporation to authorize a class of 2,000,000 shares of preferred stock. The proposed amendment includes a provision authorizing the board of directors to issue up to 2,000,000 shares of preferred stock. The provision would permit the board to authorize the issuance of preferred stock without additional shareholder approval, with such relative rights and preferences as may be established by resolution of the board of directors. The terms of the shares to be authorized, including dividend or interest rates, conversion prices, voting rights, redemption prices, maturity dates and similar matters would be determined by the board of directors. There are currently 200,000 shares of preferred stock authorized for issuance under the Corporation's Restated Articles of Incorporation, all of which would be eliminated as of the effective time of the proposed amendment.

The Proxy Statement included the following disclosure with respect to the proposal:

Although the board of directors has no present plan or proposal to do so, preferred stock could be used to discourage or impede an attempt to obtain control of the Corporation by merger, tender offer, proxy contest or other means and could be used to inhibit the removal of incumbent management. At this time, the Corporation's management is not aware of any attempts to obtain control of the Corporation.

If the proposal is approved, the board of directors of the Corporation represents that it will not, without prior shareholder approval, issue or use the preferred stock for any defensive or anti-takeover purpose or for the purpose of implementing any shareholder rights plan.

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.

CHEMICAL FINANCIAL CORPORATION

Dated: April 8, 2015

(Registrant)

/s/ Lori A. Gwizdala

Lori A. Gwizdala

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial

Officer and Treasurer