FOX BRIAN Form 4

January 23, 2018

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

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES** Form 4 or

Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations 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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

Common

Common

Stock

Stock

01/19/2018

01/19/2018

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **FOX BRIAN** Issuer Symbol HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA (Check all applicable) INC [HTLF] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) 1398 CENTRAL AVE 01/19/2018 EVP, Operations (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting DUBUQUE, IA 52001 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Securities Ownership Indirect (Instr. 3) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Beneficially Form: Direct Beneficial Ownership (Month/Day/Year) Owned (D) or (Instr. 8) Following Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Reported (Instr. 4) (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common 10,449.8689 Ι Trust (2) Stock (1) Common 10,794.8689 01/22/2018 345 I Trust (2) M 55.55 (1) Stock Common 11,195.8689 401 Ι 01/20/2018 \$ 55.5 Trust (2) M (1) Stock

M

M

281

192

11,476.8689

11,668.8689

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\$ 55.5

\$ 55.5

Trust (2)

Trust (2)

OMB APPROVAL

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January 31,

2005

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Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

Common Stock

2,000

 $D^{(3)}$

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)	onof Derivative	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		(Instr. 3 and 4)		8. I Des Sec (In
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
2017 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(4)</u>					<u>(5)</u>	<u>(5)</u>	Common Stock	896	
2017 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(4)</u>	01/19/2018		F	299	<u>(5)</u>	<u>(5)</u>	Common Stock	597	\$
2017 Performance Based Restricted Stock (3-year performance)	<u>(4)</u>					<u>(6)</u>	<u>(6)</u>	Common Stock	447	
2017 Performance Based Restricted Stock (1-year performance)	<u>(4)</u>					<u>(7)</u>	<u>(7)</u>	Common Stock	547	
2016 Time-Based Restricted	<u>(4)</u>					<u>(8)</u>	(8)	Common Stock	877	

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Stock									
2016 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(4)</u>	01/19/2018	F	438	<u>(8)</u>	<u>(8)</u>	Common Stock	439	\$
2016 Performance Based Restricted Stock (3-year performance)	<u>(4)</u>				<u>(9)</u>	<u>(9)</u>	Common Stock	1,453	
2016 Performance Based Restricted Stock (1-year performance)	<u>(4)</u>				(10)	(10)	Common Stock	698	
2015 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(4)				<u>(11)</u>	<u>(11)</u>	Common Stock	1,750	
2015 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(4)</u>	01/20/2018	F	583	<u>(11)</u>	<u>(11)</u>	Common Stock	1,167	\$
2014 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(4)</u>				(12)	(12)	Common Stock	980	
2013 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(4)</u>				<u>(13)</u>	<u>(13)</u>	Common Stock	490	
2013 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(4)</u>	01/19/2018	F	490	<u>(13)</u>	<u>(13)</u>	Common Stock	0	\$

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
.t	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
FOX BRIAN							
1398 CENTRAL AVE			EVP, Operations				
DUBUQUE, IA 52001			_				

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Signatures

/s/ Brian Fox 01/23/2018

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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 participate in a Dividend Reinvestment Plan.
- (2) These shares held by Fox Revocable Trust dated 11/19/2001, Brian J Fox and Brenda J Fox, Trustees
- (3) These shares are held in an IRA.
- (4) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Issuer's common stock.
- (5) Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest in 01-2018, 1/3 vest in 01-2019 and 1/3 vest in 01-2020.
- (6) These restricted stock units vest in 2020 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (7) These restricted stock units vest on 1-19-2020 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (8) 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.
- (9) These restricted stock units vest in 2019 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (10) These restricted stock units vest on 1-19-2019 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (11) 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.
- (12) 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.
- (13) 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.

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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