

HALLMARK FINANCIAL SERVICES INC
 Form 4
 March 20, 2015

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN 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 *
KASITZ KEVIN

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
HALLMARK FINANCIAL SERVICES INC [HALL]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
777 MAIN STREET, SUITE 1000
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
03/17/2015

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Executive Vice President; COO

FORT WORTH, TX 76102

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | Code V Amount (D) Price | | | |
| COMMON STOCK | 03/17/2015 | | M | 16,667 A \$ 7.14 | 43,093 | D | |

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

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.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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| 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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable Expiration Date | Title |
| EMPLOYEE STOCK OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY) | \$ 7.14 | 03/17/2015 | | M | 166,667 | <u>(1)</u> 05/27/2015 | COMMON STOCK |
| RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS | <u>(2)</u> | | | | | 03/31/2017 03/31/2017 | COMMON STOCK |
| RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS | <u>(3)</u> | | | | | 03/31/2016 03/31/2016 | COMMON STOCK |
| RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS | <u>(4)</u> | | | | | 03/31/2015 03/31/2015 | COMMON STOCK |
| EMPLOYEE STOCK OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY) | \$ 6.61 | | | | | <u>(5)</u> 04/01/2019 | COMMON STOCK |
| EMPLOYEE STOCK OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY) | \$ 11.46 | | | | | <u>(6)</u> 05/22/2018 | COMMON STOCK |
| EMPLOYEE STOCK OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY) | \$ 12.52 | | | | | <u>(7)</u> 05/24/2017 | COMMON STOCK |
| EMPLOYEE STOCK OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY) | \$ 11.34 | | | | | <u>(8)</u> 05/25/2016 | COMMON STOCK |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| KASITZ KEVIN 777 MAIN STREET SUITE 1000 FORT WORTH, TX 76102 | | | Executive Vice President; COO | |

Signatures

| | |
|--|------------|
| STEVEN D. DAVIDSON AS ATTORNEY-IN-FACT FOR KEVIN KASITZ | 03/20/2015 |
| **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) Represents employee stock options exercisable as to 1,667, 3,333, 5,000 and 6,667 shares on May 27, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009, respectively.

Each restricted stock unit represents the right to receive shares of common stock upon satisfaction of vesting requirements and performance criteria. The performance criteria are based on the compound average annual growth rate ("CAGR") in book value per share from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2016, and earn a percentage of a share of common stock per restricted stock unit, as follows: (i) CAGR less than 8% earns 0%; (ii) 8% CAGR earns 50%; (iii) 9% CAGR earns 64%; (iv) 10% CAGR earns 79%; (v) 11% CAGR earns 93%; (vi) 12% CAGR earns 107% shares; (vii) 13% CAGR earns 122%; (viii) 14% CAGR earns 136%; and (ix) 15% or greater CAGR earns 150%.

- (2) Each restricted stock unit represents the right to receive shares of common stock upon satisfaction of vesting requirements and performance criteria. The performance criteria are based on the compound average annual growth rate ("CAGR") in book value per share from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015, and earn a percentage of a share of common stock per restricted stock unit, as follows: (i) CAGR less than 8% earns 0%; (ii) 8% CAGR earns 50%; (iii) 9% CAGR earns 64%; (iv) 10% CAGR earns 79%; (v) 11% CAGR earns 93%; (vi) 12% CAGR earns 107% shares; (vii) 13% CAGR earns 122%; (viii) 14% CAGR earns 136%; and (ix) 15% or greater CAGR earns 150%.

- (3) Each restricted stock unit represents the right to receive shares of common stock upon satisfaction of vesting requirements and performance criteria. The performance criteria are based on the compound average annual growth rate ("CAGR") in book value per share from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2014, and earn a percentage of a share of common stock per restricted stock unit, as follows: (i) CAGR less than 8% earns 0%; (ii) 8% CAGR earns 50%; (iii) 9% CAGR earns 64%; (iv) 10% CAGR earns 79%; (v) 11% CAGR earns 93%; (vi) 12% CAGR earns 107% shares; (vii) 13% CAGR earns 122%; (viii) 14% CAGR earns 136%; and (ix) 15% or greater CAGR earns 150%.

- (4) Represents grant of employee stock options which become exercisable in seven equal annual installments commencing April 1, 2010.

- (5) Represents employee stock options exercisable as to 3,750, 7,500, 11,250 and 15,000 shares on May 22, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012, respectively.

- (6) Represents employee stock options exercisable as to 7,500, 15,000, 22,500 and 30,000 shares on May 24, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011, respectively.

- (7) Represents employee stock options exercisable as to 1,667, 3,333, 5,000 and 6,667 shares on May 25, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010, respectively.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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