

ISTAR FINANCIAL INC
Form 4
October 14, 2008

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
RICE CATHERINE

(Last) (First) (Middle)

1114 AVENUE OF THE AMERCIAS, 27TH FLOOR

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10036

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ISTAR FINANCIAL INC [SFI]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
10/09/2008

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Chief Financial Officer

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Restricted Stock Units (Common Stock)	10/09/2008		A		150,000 (1)	A	\$ 0
					262,034 (3)	D	

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

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(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. 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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Transaction (Instr. 6)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
RICE CATHERINE 1114 AVENUE OF THE AMERCIAS, 27TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10036			Chief Financial Officer	

Signatures

s/ Catherine D
Rice 10/13/2008

**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).
- iStar Financial Inc. has granted the Reporting Person a special incentive award for purposes of retention, in the amount of 150,000 Restricted Stock Units effective October 9, 2008. The Units represent the right to receive an equivalent number of shares of iStar common stock if and when the Units vest. The Units will cliff vest in one installment on October 9, 2011 if the Reporting Person is employed on the applicable vesting date. The Reporting Person is entitled to receive common stock dividend equivalent payments on the unvested Units from the award date. Units that are not vested may not be sold, transferred or pledged except by will, the laws of descent or to or for the benefit of the Reporting Person's family. If the Reporting Person voluntarily terminates employment with iStar, or iStar terminates the Reporting Person's employment for cause (as defined), any unvested Units will be forfeited automatically as of the date employment terminates.
- (2) Following this award, the Reporting Person owns a total of 262,034 Restricted Stock Units, representing the right to receive an equivalent number of shares of iStar common stock if and when the Units vest.
 - (3) In addition to these Restricted Stock Units, the Reporting Person is the beneficial owner of a total of 194,973 shares of iStar common stock and 10,000 shares of iStar preferred stock.

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.