Townsend Andrew E Form 4 March 12, 2019

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB APPROVAL

Number: 3235-0287

Expires: January 31, 2005

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obligations

may continue.

SECURITIES

Eiled pureyout to Section 16(a) of the Securities Evaluates Act of 1024

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

See Instruction 1(b).

Stock

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Townsend Andrew E			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA					5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)			
(Last) 1398 CENT	` ,	(Middle)	INC [HTLF] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/11/2019			Director 10% Owner S_ Officer (give title below) below) EVP, Chief Credit Officer					
				endment, Date Original nth/Day/Year)				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting			
DUBUQUE	z, IA 52001							Person	Tore than One Re	porting	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tabl	e I - Non-D	erivative	Secur	ities Acq	uired, Disposed of	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Da (Month/Day/Year) Execution any	med on Date, if Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securi n(A) or Di (Instr. 3,	ispose	d of (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		
Common Stock								27,395	D (1)		
Common Stock								1,163	I	401(k)	
Common	03/11/2019			M	294	A	\$ 45.77	27,689	D		

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

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number.

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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	D So A (A D of	f Deriv ecur (cqui (A) or Dispo (f (D)	sposed (D) str. 3, 4,		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		
				Code V	(<i>P</i>	A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
2018 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(2)</u>							(3)	(3)	Common Stock	523
2018 Performance Based Restricted Stock (3-year performance)	<u>(2)</u>							<u>(4)</u>	<u>(4)</u>	Common Stock	1,047
2018 Performance Based Restricted Stock (1-year performance)	(2)							<u>(5)</u>	<u>(5)</u>	Common Stock	177 <u>(6)</u>
2017 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(2)							<u>(7)</u>	<u>(7)</u>	Common Stock	344
2017 Performance Based Restricted Stock (3-year performance)	<u>(2)</u>							<u>(8)</u>	<u>(8)</u>	Common Stock	516
2017 Performance Based Restricted	(2)							<u>(9)</u>	<u>(9)</u>	Common Stock	631

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Stock (1-year performance)										
2016 Performance Based Restricted Stock (3-year performance)	(2)					(10)	(10)	Common Stock	657	
2015 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(2)					<u>(11)</u>	<u>(11)</u>	Common Stock	417	
2014 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(2)					<u>(12)</u>	(12)	Common Stock	417	
2014 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(2)	03/11/2019	N	М	417	(12)	(12)	Common Stock	0	\$

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address		Relationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			

Townsend Andrew E 1398 CENTRAL AVE DUBUQUE, IA 52001

EVP, Chief Credit Officer

Signatures

/s/ Andrew E 03/12/2019 Townsend

**Signature of Reporting Date

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).
- These shares are held in Jt. Ten. **(1)**
- **(2)** Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Issuer's common stock.
- **(3)** Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest on 3-6-2019, 1/3 vest on 3-6-2020, and 1/3 vest on 3-6-2021.
- **(4)** These restricted stock units vest in 2021 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- **(5)** These restricted stock units vest on 3-6-2021 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- **(6)** Reflects the forfeiture of 608 Performance Based Restricted Stock Units granted but not earned in 2018.

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- (7) Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest in 01-2018, 1/3 vest in 01-2019 and 1/3 vest in 01-2020.
- (8) These restricted stock units vest in 2020 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (9) These restricted stock units vest on 1-19-2020 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (10) These restricted stock units vest in 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.

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.