

ISTAR FINANCIAL INC
 Form 4
 August 04, 2009

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 *
 MCDONALD JOHN G

(Last) (First) (Middle)

GSB STANFORD UNIVERSITY,
 518 MEMORIAL WY

(Street)

STANFORD, CA 94305-5015

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 05/27/2009

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)

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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Amount		
				Code	V		
					Price		

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

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

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)

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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Common Stock Equivalents	\$ 0	05/27/2009	A	22,013 <u>(1)</u>					<u>(2)</u>	<u>(2)</u>	Common Stock	22,013

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
MCDONALD JOHN G GSB STANFORD UNIVERSITY, 518 MEMORIAL WY STANFORD, CA 94305-5015	X			

Signatures

s/ John G.
McDonald 08/04/2009

__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).
- The Reporting Person has been awarded 22,013 Common Stock Equivalents ("CSEs") under the iStar Financial Inc. Non-Employee Directors' Deferral Plan ("Plan"). These CSEs will vest on the date of the 2010 annual meeting of shareholders, subject to the provisions of the Plan.
- (1) On the relevant distribution date, vested CSEs will be settled by the transfer of shares of iStar common stock to the participant, unless a participant elects to receive some or all of a distribution of his or her CSEs in cash, based upon the fair market value of iStar common stock on the date of the distribution. The "regular distribution date" for distributions to participants is the earlier of: (1) January 1 on or next following the earlier of (i) the date the participant ceases to be a non-employee director; and (ii) the date of the participant's death; and (2) a change of control (as defined in the Plan). A participant, under certain limited circumstances, is permitted to elect to receive distributions at times other than the regular distribution date.
 - (2)
 - (3) The Reporting Person also holds 2,500 CSEs previously awarded under the Plan, which are vested.

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.