

FRANCIS KEITH A  
Form 4  
December 30, 2005

**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 \*  
FRANCIS KEITH A

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
CENTRUE FINANCIAL CORP  
[TRUE]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
310 SOUTH SCHUYLER AVENUE  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/29/2005

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Chief Credit Officer

KANKAKEE, IL 60901

(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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                | (A)<br>or<br>(D)  | 250   | D  |                                   |

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)**

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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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)       | \$ 27.5  |                                      |  | V                              | (A)   | 10/19/2005 <sup>(1)</sup> 10/19/2014                     | Common Stock  | 2,500                      |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)       | \$ 27  | 12/29/2005                           |  | A                              | 5,000   | <sup>(2)</sup> 12/29/2012                                | Common Stock  | 5,000                      |

**Reporting Owners**

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                     | Relationships |           |                      |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|----------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer              | Other |
| FRANCIS KEITH A<br>310 SOUTH SCHUYLER AVENUE<br>KANKAKEE, IL 60901 |               |           | Chief Credit Officer |       |

**Signatures**

Keith A. Francis                              12/30/2005

\*\*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) This option will vest in equal installments of 500 shares per year over 5 years beginning 10/19/2005.
- (2) This option will vest in equal installments of 1,000 shares per year over 5 years beginning 12/29/06

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.