

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC  
 Form 4  
 December 21, 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 \*  
 MINIKES MICHAEL

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC [BSC]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 C/O BEAR, STEARNS & CO.  
 INC., 383 MADISON AVENUE  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/19/2005

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

NEW YORK, NY 10179

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Price   |  |   |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | Code  | V   | Amount   |   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/19/2005                           |  | M <sup>(1)</sup>               | A   | \$ 0  | 334,487  | D   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/19/2005                           |  | S                              | D   | \$ 115.95   | 250,000  | 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)

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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 (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) |              |                            |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  |                                |   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares |
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   |  |   |              |                            |
| CAP Units (2000)                           | (2)  | 12/19/2005                           |  | M <sup>(1)</sup>               | 84,487  | 11/30/2005   | 11/30/2005  | Common Stock | 84,487                     |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |           |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer   | Other |
| MINIKES MICHAEL<br>C/O BEAR, STEARNS & CO. INC.<br>383 MADISON AVENUE<br>NEW YORK, NY 10179 |               |           | Treasurer |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Minikes,  
Michael

12/20/2005

\*\*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) Settlement of CAP Units and distribution of common stock to Reporting Person pursuant to CAP Plan; exempt under Rule 16b-3.
- (2) This type of derivative security typically does not have a conversion or exercise price

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