Schmitz Martin J Form 3 May 30, 2018

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA INC [HTLF] A Schmitz Martin J (Month/Day/Year) 05/16/2018 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 1398 CENTRAL AVENUE (Check all applicable) (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) 10% Owner _X_ Director _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Officer Other Person DUBUQUE, IAÂ 52001 (give title below) (specify below) Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 2. Amount of Securities 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security Beneficially Owned Ownership (Instr. 4) Ownership (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) D Â Common Stock 68,005 Common Stock 242,793 I controlling member Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not

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

required to respond unless the form displays a

currently valid OMB control number.

3. Title and Amount of 1. Title of Derivative Security 2. Date Exercisable and 5. 6. Nature of Indirect (Instr. 4) **Expiration Date** Securities Underlying Conversion Ownership Beneficial Ownership (Month/Day/Year) **Derivative Security** or Exercise Form of (Instr. 5) (Instr. 4) Price of Derivative Derivative Security:

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Security	Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
2017 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(1)	(1)	Common	632 (2)	\$ (3)	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
Schmitz Martin J 1398 CENTRAL AVENUE DUBUQUE, IA 52001	ÂΧ	Â	Â	Â	

Signatures

/s/ Martin J.
Schmitz

**Signature of Reporting Person

O5/30/2018

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) These restricted stock units are granted under the 2012 Long-term Incentive Plan and are subject to a one (1) year vesting schedule.
- (2) These restricted stock units were granted as part of a consulting agreement prior to appointment to the HTLF Board of Directors
- (3) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Issuer's common 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.

Reporting Owners 2