BAMBURG MICHAEL L

Form 4

January 31, 2005

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

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subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

if no longer

Check this box

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * BAMBURG MICHAEL L

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Issuer

Symbol

NOVASTAR FINANCIAL INC

(Check all applicable)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

[NFI]

(Last)

(Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

01/28/2005

Director X_ Officer (give title

10% Owner Other (specify

8140 WARD PARKWAY, SUITE

(Street)

(State)

(First)

300

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Senior Vice President

Person

below)

KANSAS CITY, MO 64114

(City) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1. Title of 5. Amount of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect

(Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Following (Instr. 4)

> Reported (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

NovaStar

Financial,

Inc. 01/28/2005 M 1,000 \$0 352,715 (1) D

Common Stock

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 (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. 5. Number Transaction Derivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) 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)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Restricted stock	\$ 0	01/28/2005		M	1,000	01/28/2005	(2)	NovaStar Financial, Inc. Common Stock	1,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BAMBURG MICHAEL L 8140 WARD PARKWAY SUITE 300 KANSAS CITY, MO 64114

Senior Vice President

Signatures

Michael L. 01/31/2005 Bamburg

**Signature of Date
Reporting 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).
- (1) Of the total, 3,502 shares are owned indirectly.
- (2) Restricted stock is converted to common stock on the exercisable date. Thus, expiration date is not applicable.

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.

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