

OMB APPROVAL	
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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <b>MCDONALD JOHN G</b> _____ (Last) (First) (Middle) <b>GSB STANFORD UNIVERSITY, 518 MEMORIAL WY</b> _____ (Street) <b>STANFORD CA 94305-5015</b> _____ (City) (State) (Zip)			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>ISTAR FINANCIAL INC [ SFI ]</b>			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)		
			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <b>05/27/2009</b>			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)					

**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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			

**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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Common Stock Equivalents	\$0	05/27/2009		A		22,013 <sup>(1)</sup>		(2)	(2)	Common Stock	22,013	\$0	24,513 <sup>(3)</sup>	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

- 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.
- 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.
- The Reporting Person also holds 2,500 CSEs previously awarded under the Plan, which are vested.

s/ John G. McDonald

08/04/2009

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

\* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.