

Swindell Douglas Cotton  
Form 5  
January 31, 2018

**FORM 5**

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

Check this box if  
no longer subject  
to Section 16.  
Form 4 or Form  
5 obligations  
may continue.  
See Instruction  
1(b).  
Form 3 Holdings  
Reported  
Form 4  
Transactions  
Reported

**ANNUAL 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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0362  
Expires: January 31,  
2005  
Estimated average  
burden hours per  
response... 1.0

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
Swindell Douglas Cotton

(Last) (First) (Middle)

500 EAST PRATT STREET, SUITE  
1300

(Street)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
ADAMS DIVERSIFIED EQUITY  
FUND, INC. [ADX]

3. Statement of Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/31/2017

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

☐ Director ☐ 10% Owner  
☒ Officer (give title ☐ Other (specify  
below) below)  
E.V.P.

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

BALTIMORE, MD 21202

☒ 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<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired<br>(A) or Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned at end<br>of Issuer's<br>Fiscal Year<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                       |                                         |                                                             |                                         | (A)<br>or<br>(D)<br>Amount<br>or<br>Price                               |                                                                                                              |                                                                      |                                                                   |
| Common<br>Stock                       | 12/31/2017                              | Â                                                           | J                                       | 38.581<br>(1)                                                           | A \$ 0 2,314.666                                                                                             | D                                                                    | Â                                                                 |
| Common<br>Stock                       | 12/31/2017                              | Â                                                           | J                                       | 3,923.7<br>(2)                                                          | A \$ 0 31,559.632<br>(3)                                                                                     | I                                                                    | By<br>Issuer's<br>Thrift<br>Plan Trust                            |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information  
contained in this form are not required to respond unless**

SEC 2270  
(9-02)

the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3,<br>4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Underlying<br>Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. ot<br>D<br>Se<br>Bo<br>O<br>E<br>Is<br>Fi<br>(I |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
|                                                     |                                                                    |                                         |                                                             |                                      | (A) (D)                                                                                                            | Date<br>Exercisable                                            | Expiration<br>Date                                                        | Title                                               | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares             |

## Reporting Owners

### Reporting Owner Name / Address

### Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Swindell Douglas Cotton  
500 EAST PRATT STREET, SUITE 1300  
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

Â Â Â E.V.P. Â

## Signatures

Gail L. Valenti as Attorney-in-Fact for Douglas Cotton  
Swindell

01/31/2018

\_\_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) These shares were acquired in exempt transactions as a result of dividend reinvestment. The Issuer's stock traded in a range of \$12.78 - \$15.90 during 2017.

(2) These shares are held by the Issuer's Thrift Plan Trust and represent the undersigned's proportionate beneficial interest in the shares that were acquired by the Trust in 2017 in exempt transactions as a result of periodic contributions made during 2017 and shares acquired by the Trustee through dividend reinvestment in 2017. The Issuer's stock traded in a range of \$12.78 - \$15.90 during 2017.

(3) The number of shares reported as held by the Issuer's Thrift Plan Trust represents the undersigned's proportionate beneficial interest in such stock held in the Trust. Such number is based on information as of 12/31/2017. This number includes the shares acquired in exempt transactions through periodic contributions made during 2017, shares acquired by the Trustee through dividend reinvestment, and changes in the number of shares previously reported due to fluctuations in the market price and interests in the Trust during 2017. The Issuer's stock traded in a range of \$12.78 - \$15.90 during 2017.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.