SOUTHSIDE BANCSHARES INC Form 8-K November 14, 2008

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported): November 13, 2008

Southside Bancshares, Inc. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 0-12247 (Commission File Number) 75-1848732 (IRS Employer Identification Number)

1201 S. Beckham, Tyler, Texas (Address of principal executive offices) 75701 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (903) 531-7111

NA (Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

p Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under Securities Act (17 CFR 230-425)

p Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240-14a-12)

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Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

p Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

ITEM 8.01. OTHER EVENTS.

Attached as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated into this item by reference is a press release issued by the Registrant on November 13, 2008 regarding its decision to not apply for funds available through the Capital Purchase Program, which is part of the federal governments Troubled Asset Relief Program to provide banks with fresh capital.

ITEM 9.01. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(D) Exhibits. The following materials are furnished as exhibits to this Current Report on Form 8-K:

Exhibit Number

Description of Exhibit

99.1 Press release dated November 13, 2008

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Southside Bancshares, Inc.

Date: November 13, 2008

By: /s/ Lee R. Gibson Lee R. Gibson, CPA Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer