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FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS INC Form DFAN14A May 12, 2016

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

SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted

by Rule 14a-6(e)(2)

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

CLOVER PARTNERS, L.P.

MHC MUTUAL CONVERSION FUND, L.P.

CLOVER PARTNERS MANAGEMENT, L.L.C.

JOHNNY GUERRY

TERRELL T. PHILEN, JR.

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

-with copies to-

Phillip M. Goldberg

Foley & Lardner LLP Peter D. Fetzer
321 North Clark Street Foley & Larder LLP

Suite 2800 777 East Wisconsin Avenue Chicago, IL 60654-5313 Milwaukee, WI 53202-5306

(312) 832-4549 (414) 297-5596

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2)

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Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

- Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
- (4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:
- (5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials. Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

- (1) Amount Previously Paid:
- (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
- (3) Filing Party:
- (4) Date Filed:

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Filed by Clover Partners, L.P.

A copy of a letter to shareholders, as revised before mailing, is being filed herewith under Rule 14a-12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Important Information

MHC Mutual Conversion Fund, L.P. has nominated Johnny Guerry and Terrell T. Philen, Jr. as nominees to the board of directors of Financial Institutions, Inc. (the "Company") and intend to solicit votes for the election of Mr. Guerry and Mr. Philen as members of the board. MHC Mutual Conversion Fund, L.P. will send a definitive proxy statement, WHITE proxy card and related proxy materials to shareholders of the Company seeking their support of Mr. Guerry and Mr. Philen at the Company's 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. Stockholders are urged to read the definitive proxy statement and WHITE proxy card when they become available, because they will contain important information about the participants in the solicitation, Mr. Guerry and Mr. Philen, the Company and related matters. Stockholders may obtain a free copy of the definitive proxy statement and WHITE proxy card (when available) and other documents filed by MHC Mutual Conversion Fund, L.P. with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") at the SEC's web site at www.sec.gov. The definitive proxy statement (when available) and other related SEC documents filed by MHC Mutual Conversion Fund, L.P. with the SEC may also be obtained free of charge from the MHC Mutual Conversion Fund.

Participants in Solicitation

The participants in the solicitation by MHC Mutual Conversion Fund, L.P. consist of the following persons (the "Participants"): MHC Mutual Conversion Fund, L.P., Clover Partners, L.P., Clover Partners Management, L.L.C., Johnny Guerry and Terrell T. Philen, Jr. Such participants may have interests in the solicitation, including as a result of holding shares of the Company's common stock. Information regarding the participants and their interests may be found in the Notice of Intent to Nominate Directors and Submit Nominees for Election that MHC Mutual Conversion Fund, L.P. filed with the SEC on April 13, 2016, which is incorporated herein by reference.