

SCHWATKEN RODNEY E  
 Form 4  
 February 10, 2006

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL  
 OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 SCHWATKEN RODNEY E

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 NOVASTAR FINANCIAL INC  
 [NFI]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
 01/03/2006

\_\_\_\_ Director  
 Officer (give title below)  
 \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 Principal Financial Officer

C/O NOVASTAR FINANCIAL  
 INC, 8140 WARD PARKWAY,  
 SUITE 300

(Street)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

KANSAS CITY, MO 64114

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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	(D)	Price
NovaStar Financial, Inc. Common Stock (1) (2)	02/08/2006		A		410	A	\$ 0
NovaStar Financial, Inc. Common Stock					17,601	I	

By Rodney E. Schwatken Trust.

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

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(9-02)

**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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. P	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option	\$ 31.21	02/08/2006		A	233	02/08/2007	02/08/2016	NovaStar Financial Inc. Common Stock	233
Stock Option	\$ 31.21	02/08/2006		A	233	02/08/2008	02/08/2016	NovaStar Financial Inc. Common Stock	233
Stock Option	\$ 31.21	02/08/2006		A	234	02/08/2009	02/08/2016	NovaStar Financial Inc. Common Stock	234
Stock Option	\$ 31.21	02/08/2006		A	234	02/08/2010	02/08/2016	NovaStar Financial Inc. Common Stock	234

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director      10% Owner      Officer      Other

SCHWATKEN RODNEY E  
C/O NOVASTAR FINANCIAL INC  
8140 WARD PARKWAY, SUITE 300  
KANSAS CITY, MO 64114

Principal  
Financial  
Officer

## Signatures

Rodney E.  
Schwatken                      02/08/2006

\_\_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) This is a grant of restricted stock subject to a 5 year Cliff vesting period.
  - (2) Restrictive stock has voting rights and rights to receive dividends at transation date, but is subject to forfeiture.

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