

AMTRUST FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.

Reported by
ZYSKIND BARRY D

FORM 4

(Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 01/05/09 for the Period Ending 12/31/08

Address	59 MAIDEN LANE 6TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10038
Telephone	(212) 220-7120
CIK	0001365555
Symbol	AFSI
SIC Code	6411 - Insurance Agents, Brokers, and Service
Industry	Insurance (Prop. & Casualty)
Sector	Financial
Fiscal Year	12/31

FORM 4

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

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

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**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(f) of the
Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Zyskind Barry D <small>(Last) (First) (Middle)</small> C/O AMTRUST FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC., 59 MAIDEN LANE, 6TH FLOOR <small>(Street)</small> NEW YORK, NY 10038 <small>(City) (State) (Zip)</small>	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Amtrust Financial Services, Inc. [AFSI] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY) <p align="center">12/31/2008</p>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) President and CEO 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY)		

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Trans. Date	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	3. Trans. 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			
Common Stock	12/31/2008	12/31/2008	G		55000	D	\$0	5967000	D	
Common Stock								55000 (1)	I	N/A

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g. , puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivate Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Trans. Date	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Trans. 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		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 of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V		(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date				

Explanation of Responses:

(1) Shares held by Teferes Foundation, a charitable foundation controlled by the Reporting Person, which owns 55,000 shares of common stock. The Reporting Person does not have a beneficial interest in the shares owned by Teferes Foundation and, therefore, disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares of common stock.

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Zyskind Barry D C/O AMTRUST FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC. 59 MAIDEN LANE, 6TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10038	X	X	President and CEO	

Signatures

/s/ Barry D. Zyskind

1/5/2009

** 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 control number.