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

**SCHEDULE 13G** 

# (Amendment No.)\*

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

# SOUTHERN STATES BANCSHARES, INC.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, par value \$5.00 per share

(Titles of Class of Securities)

#### 843878307

(CUSIP Number)

#### December 31, 2022

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

\* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out of a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the *Notes*).

	CUSIP No. 843878307			13G	Page 2 of 11	
1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON Fourthstone LLC					
2	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A M (a) □ (b) □			MEMBER OF A GROUP		
3	SEC USE ON	LY				
4	CITIZENSHI Missouri	P OR P	LACE OF ORGANIZ	ATION		
	I		SOLE VOTING PO	WER		
BEI	UMBER OF SHARES NEFICIALLY OWNED	6	SHARED VOTING 599,850	POWER		
RI	BY EACH EPORTING PERSON WITH:	7	SOLE DISPOSITIV	E POWER		
	W1111.		SHARED DISPOSI 599,850	TIVE POWER		
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 599,850					
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES					
11	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.89% (1)					
12	TYPE OF RE	PORTI	NG PERSON			
	IA					

(1) Based on 8,706,920 shares of Common Stock (as defined below) of the Issuer (as defined below) outstanding as of November 10, 2022, based on the Issuer's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 10, 2022. Fourthstone LLC acquired the Issuer's shares in the ordinary course of business as a registered investment adviser and not with the purpose nor with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the Issuer.

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1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON Fourthstone Master Opportunity Fund Ltd					
2	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A M			MEMBER OF A GROUP		
3	(b) SEC USE ON	LY				
4	CITIZENSHI Cayman Islan		PLACE OF ORGANIZ	ATION		
		5	SOLE VOTING PO	WER		
	NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED		SHARED VOTING 390,655	POWER		
	BY EACH EPORTING PERSON WITH:	7	SOLE DISPOSITIV	E POWER		
	with.	8	SHARED DISPOSI 390,655	TIVE POWER		
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 390,655					
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES					
11	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9					
	4.49% (2)					
12	TYPE OF RE	PORTI	ING PERSON			
	00					

(2) Based on 8,706,920 shares of Common Stock (as defined below) of the Issuer (as defined below) outstanding as of November 10, 2022, based on the Issuer's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 10, 2022. Fourthstone LLC acquired the Issuer's shares in the ordinary course of business as a registered investment adviser and not with the purpose nor with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the Issuer.

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	CUSIP No. 843878307		3878307	13G	Page 4 of 11
1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON Fourthstone GP LLC				
2	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A M		OPRIATE BOX IF A	MEMBER OF A GROUP	
	(b) 🗆				
3	SEC USE ON	LY			
4	CITIZENSHI Missouri	P OR P	LACE OF ORGANIZ	ATION	
			SOLE VOTING PO	WER	
	UMBER OF SHARES	6	SHARED VOTING	POWER	
	NEFICIALLY OWNED		200,394		
R	BY EACH EPORTING	7	SOLE DISPOSITIV	E POWER	
	PERSON WITH:		- 0 -		
		8	SHARED DISPOSI	TIVE POWER	
			200,394		
9	AGGREGATI	e amo	OUNT BENEFICIALL	Y OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON	
	200,394				
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES				
11	11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9				
	2.30% (3)				
12	TYPE OF RE	PORTI	NG PERSON		
	00				

(3) Based on 8,706,920 shares of Common Stock (as defined below) of the Issuer (as defined below) outstanding as of November 10, 2022, based on the Issuer's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 10, 2022. Fourthstone GP LLC is the general partner of and may be deemed to beneficially own securities owned by, Fourthstone QP Opportunity Fund LP and Fourthstone Small-Cap Financials Fund LP.

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1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON Fourthstone QP Opportunity Fund LP				
2	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A ☐ (a) □ (b) □			MEMBER OF A GROUP	
3	SEC USE ON	LY			
4	CITIZENSHI Delaware	P OR P	PLACE OF ORGANIZ	ATION	
			SOLE VOTING PO	WER	
BE	UMBER OF SHARES NEFICIALLY OWNED	6	SHARED VOTING 180,324	POWER	
	BY EACH EPORTING PERSON WITH:	7	SOLE DISPOSITIV	E POWER	
	W1111.	8	SHARED DISPOSI 180,324	TIVE POWER	
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 180,324				
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES				
11	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 2.07% (4)				
12	TYPE OF RE	PORTI	ING PERSON		
12	PN				

(4) Based on 8,706,920 shares of Common Stock (as defined below) of the Issuer (as defined below) outstanding as of November 10, 2022, based on the Issuer's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 10, 2022.

	CUSIP No. 843878307		3878307	13G	Page 6 of 11
1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON Fourthstone Small-Cap Financials Fund LP				
2	CHECK THE	APPR	OPRIATE BOX IF A	MEMBER OF A GROUP	
	(a) □ (b) □				
3	SEC USE ON	LY			
4	CITIZENSHI Delaware	P OR I	PLACE OF ORGANIZ	ATION	
		5	SOLE VOTING PO	WER	
			- 0 -		
	UMBER OF SHARES	6	SHARED VOTING	POWER	
	NEFICIALLY OWNED		20,070		
	BY EACH EPORTING	7	SOLE DISPOSITIV	E POWER	
	PERSON WITH:		- 0 -		
		8	SHARED DISPOSI	TIVE POWER	
			20,070		
9	AGGREGAT	E AMO	OUNT BENEFICIALL	Y OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON	
	20,070				
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES				
11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9					
	0.23% (5)				
12	TYPE OF RE	PORT	ING PERSON		
	PN				

(5) Based on 8,706,920 shares of Common Stock (as defined below) of the Issuer (as defined below) outstanding as of November 10, 2022, based on the Issuer's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 10, 2022.

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1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON L. Phillip Stone, IV				
2	CHECK THE APPROPRIAT		OPRIATE BOX IF A	MEMBER OF A GROUP	
	(a) □ (b) □				
3	SEC USE ON	LY			
4	CITIZENSHI U.S.A.	P OR P	PLACE OF ORGANIZ	ATION	
		5	SOLE VOTING PO	WER	
	UMBER OF	6	- 0 - SHARED VOTING	POWER	
BE	SHARES NEFICIALLY OWNED	0	599,850		
R	BY EACH EPORTING PERSON	7	SOLE DISPOSITIV	E POWER	
	WITH:		- 0 -		
		8	SHARED DISPOSI	TIVE POWER	
	1		599,850		
9		E AMC	OUNT BENEFICIALL	Y OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON	
10	599,850				
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES				5 🗆
11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.89% (6)					
12	TYPE OF RE	PORTI	NG PERSON		
	IN				

(6) Based on 8,706,920 shares of Common Stock (as defined below) of the Issuer (as defined below) outstanding as of November 10, 2022, based on the Issuer's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 10, 2022. L. Phillip Stone, IV, is the Managing Member of Fourthstone LLC and Fourthstone GP and may be deemed to beneficially own securities owned by Fourthstone.

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#### Item 1(a). Name of Issuer:

SOUTHERN STATES BANCHARES, INC. (the "Issuer")

### Item 1(b). Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

615 Quintard Avenue Anniston, Alabama 36201

#### Item 2(a). Name of Person Filing:

This Schedule 13G is being filed by Fourthstone LLC, a Missouri Limited Liability Company and Investment Adviser ("Fourthstone"). The persons reporting information on this Schedule 13G include, in addition to Fourthstone, a company incorporated in the Cayman Islands ("Fourthstone Master Opportunity Fund"), a Delaware Limited Partnership ("Fourthstone QP Opportunity"), a Delaware Limited Partnership ("Fourthstone GP," General Partner of Fourthstone QP Opportunity and Fourthstone Small-Cap Financials), and L. Phillip Stone, IV, a citizen of the United States of America, who is the Managing Member of Fourthstone and Fourthstone GP (each, a "Reporting Person" and, together, the "Reporting Persons").

Fourthstone directly holds 599,850 shares of Common Stock on behalf of its advisory clients. Each of the Reporting Persons listed in this filing certify the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the Issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that effect.

#### Item 2(b). Address of Principal Business Office or, if none, Residence:

The principal business address of each of the Reporting Persons is as follows:

The registered office of Fourthstone LLC, Fourthstone Master Opportunity Fund Ltd., Fourthstone GP LLC, Fourthstone QP Opportunity Fund LP, Fourthstone Small-Cap Financials Fund LP is 575 Maryville Centre Drive, Suite 110, St. Louis, MO 63141.

#### Item 2(c). Citizenship:

See response to Item 4 of each of the cover pages.

# Item 2(d). Titles of Classes of Securities:

Common Stock, par value \$5.00 per share ("Common Stock")

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Item 2(e).	CUSIP Number:						
	843878307						
Item 3.	If This Statement is Filed Pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b) or (c), Check Whether the Person Filing is a(n):						
	(a) $\square$ Broker or dealer registered un	nder Section 15 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 780).					
	(b) $\square$ Bank as defined in Section 3(	(a)(6) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).					
	(c) $\Box$ Insurance company as define	d in Section 3(a)(19) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C.	of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).				
	<ul> <li>(d) □ Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C 80a-8).</li> <li>(e) ⊠ Investment adviser in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E).</li> </ul>						
	(f) $\Box$ Employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F).						
	(g) $\boxtimes$ Parent holding company or c	ontrol person in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)	(G).				
	(h) $\Box$ Savings association as define	d in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Ac	t (13 U.S.C. 1813).				
	(i) Church plan that is excluded (15 U.S.C. 80a-3).	from the definition of an investment company under s	Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act				
	(j) D Non-U.S. institution in accord	dance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).					
	(k) $\Box$ Group in accordance with §2	40.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(K).					
	If filing as a non-U.S. institution in ac	cordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J), please specify	the type of institution:				
Item 4.	Ownership						
	(a) Amount Beneficially Owned:						
	See responses to Item 9 on each cover page.						
	(b) Percent of Class:						
	See recreations to Item 11 on each cover need						

See responses to Item 11 on each cover page.

(c) Number of shares as to which such person has:

# (i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote:

See responses to Item 5 on each cover page.

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## (ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote:

See responses to Item 6 on each cover page.

## (iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:

See responses to Item 7 on each cover page.

#### (iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:

See responses to Item 8 on each cover page.

## Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following  $\Box$ .

#### Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

Not Applicable.

# Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company.

Not applicable.

#### Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

Not applicable.

# Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not Applicable.

# Item 10. Certification.

Each of the Reporting Persons listed in this filing certify the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the Issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that effect.

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## **SIGNATURE**

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: February 14, 2023

Fourthstone LLC

By: <u>/s/ Amy M. Stone</u> Name: Amy M. Stone Title: Chief Executive Officer

Fourthstone Master Opportunity Fund Ltd

By: /s/ Amy M. Stone Name: Amy M. Stone Title: Chief Executive Officer

Fourthstone QP Opportunity Fund LP

Fourthstone Small-Cap Financials Fund LP

By: Fourthstone GP LLC, the General Partner

By: /s/ Amy M. Stone Name: Amy M. Stone Title: Chief Executive Officer