

ADAMS EXPRESS CO  
Form 5  
January 26, 2009

**FORM 5**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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).  
Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

**ANNUAL 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
Escherich Frederic A  
  
(Last) (First) (Middle)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
ADAMS EXPRESS CO [ADX]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

THE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY, 7 SAINT PAUL STREET  
  
(Street)

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)  
12/31/2008

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

BALTIMORE, MD 21202

Form Filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

(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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Amount Price			
Common Stock	03/27/2008	^	J	47 <sup>(1)</sup> A \$ 12.65	3,735	D	^
Common Stock	12/31/2008	^	J	215 <sup>(2)</sup> A \$ 0	3,950	D	^

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

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SEC 2270 (9-02)

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**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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Amount or Number of Shares
					(A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title		

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Escherich Frederic A THE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY 7 SAINT PAUL STREET BALTIMORE, MD 21202	Â X	Â	Â	Â

## Signatures

Frederic A. Escherich  
01/26/2009  
\*\*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) These shares were acquired as dividend equivalents which were issued in conjunction with 750 restricted stock units which vested on 3/27/2008.
- (2) These shares were acquired in exempt transactions as a result of dividend reinvestment. The Issuer's stock traded in a range of \$7.20-\$13.74.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.