

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

## FORM 5

Annual statement of changes in beneficial ownership of securities

Filing Date: **2009-01-26** | Period of Report: **2008-12-31**

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### ISSUER

#### **ADAMS EXPRESS CO**

CIK: **2230** | IRS No.: **134912740** | State of Incorporation: **MD** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**

#### Mailing Address

7 ST PAUL STREET SUITE  
1140  
BALTIMORE MD 21202

#### Business Address

SEVEN ST PAUL ST STE 1140  
BALTIMORE MD 21202  
4107525900

### REPORTING OWNER

#### **Escherich Frederic A**

CIK: **1353313**

Type: **5** | Act: **34** | File No.: **811-00248** | Film No.: **09545705**

#### Mailing Address

THE ADAMS EXPRESS  
COMPANY  
7 SAINT PAUL STREET  
BALTIMORE MD 21202

#### Business Address

410-752-5900

# 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

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 <b>Escherich Frederic A</b>			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>ADAMS EXPRESS CO [ADX]</b>			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) <b>12/31/2008</b>					
THE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY, 7 SAINT PAUL STREET			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)			6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (Check applicable line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form Filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person		
(Street)								
BALTIMORE, MD 21202								
(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)
				Amount	(A) or (D)	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	

**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 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)
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

#### Explanation of Responses:

- These shares were acquired as dividend equivalents which were issued in conjunction with 750 restricted stock units which vested on 3/27/2008.
- 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.

#### Signatures

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 Number.**