# **UNITED STATES** SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# **SCHEDULE 13G/A**

(Amendment No. 1)\* **Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934** 

# FINWARD BANCORP

(Name of Issuer)
Common Stock, no par value per share
(Titles of Class of Securities)
31812F109
(CUSIP Number)
December 31, 2023
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)
Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:
☑ Rule 13d-1(b)
□ Rule 13d-1(c)
$\square$ Rule 13d-1(d)
* 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 <i>Notes</i> ).

1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON Fourthstone LLC					
2	CHECK THE AP	PROPR	IATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP			
	(a) □ (b) □					
3	SEC USE ONLY					
4	CITIZENSHIP O Delaware	R PLAC	CE OF ORGANIZATION			
	•	5	SOLE VOTING POWER			
NUN	MBER OF		-0-			
	HARES	6	SHARED VOTING POWER			
	FICIALLY NED BY		428.538			
	EACH	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER			
	PORTING	,	SOLE BISTOSITY ETO WERC			
	ERSON		- 0 -			
WITH: 8			SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER			
428,538						
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON					
	428,538					
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES □					
11	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9					
	9.96% (1)					
12	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON					

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<sup>(1)</sup> Based on 4,300,517 shares of Common Stock (as defined below) of the Issuer (as defined below) outstanding as of November 9, 2023, based on the Issuer's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 9, 2023. 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.

1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON						
	Fourthstone Master Opportunity Fund Ltd						
2	CHECK THE AF	PROPR	IATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP				
	(a) $\Box$						
3	(b) □ SEC USE ONLY	-					
3	SEC USE ONL I						
4	CITIZENSHIP O	R PLAC	CE OF ORGANIZATION				
	Cayman Islands						
-		5	SOLE VOTING POWER				
	MBER OF		-0-				
~	IARES FICIALLY	6	SHARED VOTING POWER				
	NED BY		314,618				
	EACH	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER				
	ORTING	,	SOLE BISTOSHIVETOWER				
PERSON - 0 -							
WITH:		8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER				
_	314,618						
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON						
	314,618						
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES □						
11	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9						
	7.32% (2)						
12	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON						

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1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON						
	Fourthstone GP LLC						
2	CHECK THE AP	PROPR	IATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP				
	(a) □ (b) □						
3	SEC USE ONLY						
3	SEC USE ONL I						
4	CITIZENSHIP O	R PLAC	CE OF ORGANIZATION				
	Delaware						
		5	SOLE VOTING POWER				
	MBER OF	-	-0-				
	HARES EFICIALLY	6	SHARED VOTING POWER				
	NED BY		113,920				
	EACH	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER				
REPORTING			5522 5157 55117 215 11215				
PE	ERSON		- 0 -				
WITH:		8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER				
113,920							
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON						
	113.920						
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES □						
11			EPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9				
	2.65% (3)						
12	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON						

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<sup>(3)</sup> Based on 4,300,517 shares of Common Stock (as defined below) of the Issuer (as defined below) outstanding as of November 9, 2023, based on the Issuer's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 9, 2023 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 C	pportur	ity Fund LP			
2	CHECK THE AP	PROPR	IATE BOX IF A	MEMBER OF A GROUP		
	_					
	(a) 🗆					
3	(p)					_
3	SEC USE ONLY					
4	CITIZENSHIP O	R PLAC	E OF ORGANIZ	ZATION		-
	Delaware					
		5	SOLE VOTING	G POWER		
	MBER OF		- 0 -			
	HARES	6	SHARED VOT	ING POWER		
	FICIALLY					
	NED BY		110,441			
	EACH	7	SOLE DISPOS	ITIVE POWER		
REPORTING						
PERSON - 0 -		-	OCCUPATE DOLLED		_	
WITH: 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE				POSITIVE POWER		
110,441						
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON					
-	TO ORD OTTO THE DESCRIPTION DE LA ORTEGA DE					
	110,441					
10	CHECK BOX IF	THE A	GGREGATE AM	IOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SH	ARES	
11	PERCENT OF C	LASS R	EPRESENTED I	BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9		
	2.57% (4)					
12	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON					

CUSIP No. 31812F109			1	13G/A	Page 6 of 11		
1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON						
	Fourthstone Sma	ll-Cap F	inancials Fund Ll	P			
2	CHECK THE AF	PROPR	IATE BOX IF A	MEMBER OF A GROUP			
	(a) □ (b) □						
3	SEC USE ONLY						
3	SEC USE ONE I						
4	CITIZENSHIP C	R PLAC	CE OF ORGANIZ	ZATION			
	Delaware						
		5	SOLE VOTING	G POWER			
	(DED 05		0				
	MBER OF		- 0 -	CRIC POWER			
~-	HARES EFICIALLY	6	SHARED VOT	ING POWER			
	NED BY		3,479				
				SITIVE POWER			
REP	ORTING	,	SOLE DISTOR	THE TOWER			
PERSON - 0 -			- 0 -				
WITH: 8 SHARED D			SHARED DISI	POSITIVE POWER			
	3,479						
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON						
	3,479						
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES □						
11	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9						
	0.08% (5)						
12	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON						

<sup>(5)</sup> Based on 4,300,517 shares of Common Stock (as defined below) of the Issuer (as defined below) outstanding as of November 9, 2023, based on the Issuer's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 9, 2023

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1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON							
		L. Phillip Stone, IV						
2	CHECK THE AF	PROPR	IATE BOX IF A	MEMBER OF A GROUP				
	(a) □ (b) □							
3	SEC USE ONLY							
4	CITIZENSHIP C	R PLAC	CE OF ORGANIZ	ZATION				
	U.S.A.		1					
		5	SOLE VOTING	G POWER				
NII IN	ADED OF		- 0 -					
	MBER OF HARES		SHARED VOT	EDIC DOWED				
	FICIALLY	6	SHAKED VOI	ING POWER				
	NED BY		428,538					
	EACH	7		SITIVE POWER				
REP	ORTING							
PERSON - 0 -			- 0 -					
WITH: 8 SHARED DIS			SHARED DISI	POSITIVE POWER				
	420.420							
0	428,538							
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON							
	428.538							
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES □							
11				BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9				
	9.96% (6)							
12	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON							

<sup>(6)</sup> Based on 4,300,517 shares of Common Stock (as defined below) of the Issuer (as defined below) outstanding as of November 9, 2023, based on the Issuer's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 9, 2023. 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:

FINWARD BANCORP (the "Issuer")

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

9204 Columbia Avenue Munster, Indiana 46321

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

This Schedule 13G/A is being filed by Fourthstone LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company and Investment Adviser (<u>Fourthstone</u>"). The persons reporting information on this Schedule 13G/A include, in addition to Fourthstone, a company incorporated in the Cayman Islands (<u>Fourthstone Master Opportunity Fund</u>"), a Delaware Limited Partnership (<u>Fourthstone GP Opportunity</u>"), a Delaware Limited Partnership Delaware (<u>Fourthstone GP</u>, 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 <u>Reporting Person</u>" and, together, the <u>Reporting Persons</u>").

Fourthstone directly holds 428,538 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, no par value per share

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Item 2(e).	CUSIP Number:										
	31812F109										
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) 🗆 Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78o).										
	(b) ☐ Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).										
	(c) Insurance company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).										
	(d) Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C 80a-8).										
	(e) ⊠ Investment adviser in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E).										
	(f) ☐ Employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F).										
	(g) ⊠ Parent holding company or control person in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G).										
	(h) Savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (13 U.S.C. 1813).										
	(i) Church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act (15 U.S.C. 80a-3)										
	(j) Non-U.S. institution in accorda	(j) Non-U.S. institution in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).									
	(k) $\square$ Group in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(K).										
	If filing as a non-U.S. institution in accordance 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 co	over page.									
	(b) Percent of Class:										
	See responses to Item 11 on each of	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 ea	ch cover page.									
		9									

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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 [].

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, 2024

Fourthstone LLC

By: /s/ Amy M. Stone
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