

**FORM 3**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE  
COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF  
SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0104
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<b>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *</b> <u>Cassell Matthew C.</u> <hr/> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>1900 16TH STREET</u> <u>SUITE 1200</u> <hr/> (Street) <u>DENVER CO 80202</u> <hr/> (City) (State) (Zip)	<b>2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year)</b> <u>02/01/2023</u>	<b>3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</b> <u>First Western Financial Inc [ MYFW ]</u>	
		<b>4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</b> (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>Chief Banking Officer</u>	<b>5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)</b>  <b>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	16,001 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			

**Explanation of Responses:**

1. Includes (i) 4,971 shares of common stock; (ii) 10,490 restricted stock units that vest in five substantially equal installments on each anniversary of the August 3, 2020 grant date subject to the continued service of the reporting person; and (iii) 540 restricted stock units that vest in five year substantially equal installments on each anniversary of the May 2, 2022 grant date subject to the continued service of the reporting person.

**Remarks:**

Exhibit 24 - Power of Attorney

/s/ Julie A. Courkamp,  
Attorney-in-Fact

02/10/2023

\*\* 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 5 (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.**

**Power of Attorney**

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints each of Scott C. Wylie and Julie A. Courkamp, signing singly, the undersigned's true and lawful attorney-in-fact to:

- (1) prepare, execute in the undersigned's name and on the undersigned's behalf, and submit to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") a Form ID, including amendments thereto, and any other documents necessary or appropriate to obtain codes and passwords enabling the undersigned to make electronic filings with the SEC of reports required by Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and the rules and regulations thereunder;
- (2) execute for and on behalf of the undersigned Forms 3, 4 and 5 (including amendments thereto) in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Exchange, and the rules and regulations thereunder;
- (3) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned that may be necessary or desirable to complete and execute any such Form 3, 4 or 5, complete and execute any amendment or amendments thereto, file that Form with the SEC and any stock exchange or similar authority, and provide a copy as required by law or advisable to such persons as the attorney-in-fact deems appropriate; and
- (4) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing that, in the opinion of the attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required of the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by the attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney will be in such form and will contain such terms and conditions as the attorney-in-fact may approve in the attorney-in-fact's discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary, or proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that the attorney-in-fact, or the attorney-in-fact's substitute or substitutes, will lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this Power of Attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorneys-in-fact, and their substitutes, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, are not assuming, nor is First Western Financial, Inc., any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

The undersigned agrees that each such attorney-in-fact may rely entirely on information furnished orally or in writing by or at the direction of the undersigned to the attorney-in-fact. The undersigned also agrees to indemnify and hold harmless First Western Financial, Inc. and each such attorney-in-fact against any losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in these respects) that arise out of or are based upon any untrue statements or omissions of necessary facts in the information provided by or at the direction of the undersigned, or upon the lack of timeliness in the delivery of information by or at the direction of the undersigned, to that attorney-in-fact for purposes of executing, acknowledging, delivering or filing any Form 3, 4 or 5 (including any amendment thereto) and agrees to reimburse First Western Financial, Inc. and the attorney-in-fact on demand for any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred in connection with investigating or defending against any such loss, claim, damage, liability or action.

This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 3, 4 and 5 with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in securities issued by First Western Financial, Inc., unless earlier revoked by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to the foregoing attorneys-in-fact.

*[Signature Page Follows]*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this Power of Attorney as of the date written below.

/s/ Matthew C. Cassell

Signature

Matthew C. Cassell

Print Name

January 30, 2023

Date

[Signature Page to Power of Attorney for Section 16 Reporting Obligations]

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