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BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC Form 424B3 August 23, 2004

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. IncomeNotes(SM)

With Maturities of Nine Months or More from Date of Issue

Registration No. 333-109793 Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) Pricing Supplement No. 36 (To Prospectus dated November 17, 2003,

and Prospectus Supplement dated November 17, 2003)

Trade Date: August 23, 2004 Issue Date: August 26, 2004

The date of this Pricing Supplement is August 23, 2004

Fixed Rate Notes

Maturity Price to Discounts & Interest Rate Date Public Commissions Reallowance CUSIP# 07387EFX0 8/15/2029 100.00% 2.50% 0.350% 5.85%

Subject to Redemption

First Interest Payment Date	First Interest Payment Amount	Survivor's Option	Yes/No	Date and Terms of Redemption	Ag Pr A
2/15/2005	\$27.46	Yes	Yes	Commencing on 8/15/2009 and on the 15th of each month thereafter until Maturity, the Notes may be called in whole at par at the option of the Company on ten calendar days notice.	\$10

* * *

The distribution of IncomeNotes will conform to the requirements set forth in Rule 2720 of the NASD Conduct Rules.