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BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC Form 424B3 January 07, 2005

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 46Rule 424(b)(3)DATED:January 4, 2005File No. 333-109793(To Prospectus dated November 17, 2003,
and Prospectus Supplement dated November 17, 2003)File No. 333-109793

\$10,668,950,162 THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. Medium-Term Notes, Series B

Principal Amount: \$25,000,000	Floating Rate Notes [x]	Book Entry Notes [x]
Original Issue Date: 1/7/2005	Fixed Rate Notes []	Certificated Notes []
Maturity Date: 1/7/2009	CUSIP#: 073928J46	
Option to Extend Maturity:	No [x] Yes [] Final Maturity	Date:

Redeemable On	Redemption Price(s)	Optional Repayment Date(s)	Optional Repayment Price(s)
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:

Interest Rate:

Interest Payment Dates:

Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:

Interest Rate Basis: Maximum Interest Rate: N/A [] Commercial Paper Rate Minimum Interest Rate: N/A [] Federal Funds Effective Rate [] Federal Funds Open Rate Interest Reset Date(s): * [] Treasury Rate Interest Reset Period: Monthly [] LIBOR Reuters Interest Payment Date(s): ** [x] LIBOR Telerate [] Prime Rate [] CMT Rate Initial Interest Rate: 2.57% Interest Payment Period: Monthly Index Maturity: One Month

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Spread (plus or minus): +0.17%

 \star On the 7th of each month prior to Maturity.

** On the 7th of each month, including the maturity date.

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