## Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 424B3

## BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC Form 424B3

[ ] Prime Rate

April 11, 2006

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 23A Rule 424(b)(3)

DATED: March 6, 2006 + File No. 333-121744

April 6, 2006 ++

(To Prospectus dated February 2, 2005,

and Prospectus Supplement dated February 2, 2005)

\$12,410,781,162 THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.

Medium-Term Notes, Series B Principal Amount: \$85,000,000 Floating Rate Notes [x] Book Entry Notes [x] Original Issue Date: 03/09/2006 ^ 04/11/2006 ^^ Fixed Rate Notes [ ] Certificated Notes [ ] Maturity Date: 03/07/2008 CUSIP#: 073928P23 Option to Extend Maturity: No [x] Yes [ ] Final Maturity Date: Optional Optional
Redemption Repayment Repayment
Price(s) Date(s) Price(s) Repayment Redeemable On 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 [x] Federal Funds Open Rate Interest Reset Date(s): Daily [ ] Treasury Rate Interest Reset Period: Daily [ ] LIBOR Reuters Interest Payment Date(s): \* [ ] LIBOR Telerate

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## [ ] CMT Rate

Initial Interest Rate: 4.50% Interest Payment Period: Quarterly

Index Maturity: N/A

Spread (plus or minus): +0.125%

- + \$60,000,000 was traded on March 6, 2006.
- ++ \$25,000,000 was traded on April 6, 2006.
- ^ \$60,000,000 was issued on March 9, 2006.
- ^^ \$25,000,000 was issued on April 11, 2006.
- $\star$  Commencing June 7, 2006 and on the 7th of each September, December, March and June thereafter, up to and including the maturity date.

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