

WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION
 Form 4
 January 27, 2010

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
WALL MERRILL

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION [WAL]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
C/O 2700 WEST SAHARA AVENUE
 (Street)
LAS VEGAS, NV 89102
 (City) (State) (Zip)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
01/25/2010

____ Director
 Officer (give title below) _____ 10% Owner
 _____ Other (specify below)
EVP and Chief Admin. Officer

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 ____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Code V Amount (D) Price | | |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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 control number.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative | 2. Conversion | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if | 4. Transaction | 5. Number of Derivative | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities | 8. I |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---|--|------|
|------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---|--|------|

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| Security (Instr. 3) | or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | any (Month/Day/Year) | Code (Instr. 8) | Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 3 and 4) | Sec (In | | | |
|---------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Restricted Stock | \$ 5.21 | 01/25/2010 | A | | 2,687 | | (1) | (2) | Common Stock | 2,687 |
| Restricted Stock | \$ 5.21 | 01/25/2010 | A | | 26,000 | | (3) | (2) | Common Stock | 26,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| WALL MERRILL C/O 2700 WEST SAHARA AVENUE LAS VEGAS, NV 89102 | | | EVP and Chief Admin. Officer | |

Signatures

/s/ Dale Gibbons
(Attorney-in-Fact) 01/27/2010

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(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).
- (1) Restricted Stock Award fully vests in 2 years from grant date.
- (2) Restricted Stock Awards have no expiration date.
- (3) The options vest 50% in 2 years from grant date and remaining 50% vest in 3 years from grant date.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.