

MIDSOUTH BANCORP INC
Form 10-K
March 14, 2014

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

FORM 10-K
ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013
Commission File number 1-11826

MIDSOUTH BANCORP, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Louisiana 72-1020809
(State of Incorporation) (I.R.S. EIN Number)

102 Versailles Boulevard, Lafayette, Louisiana 70501
(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (337) 237-8343

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
<u>Common Stock, \$.10 par value</u>	<u>New York Stock Exchange</u>

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: none

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.
Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Act.
Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).
Yes No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers in response to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a nonaccelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. A large accelerated filer An accelerated filer A nonaccelerated filer A smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act.)
Yes No

The aggregate market value of the voting and nonvoting common equity held by nonaffiliates of the registrant at June 30, 2013 was approximately \$116,357,698 based upon the closing market price per share of the registrant's common stock as reported on The New York Stock Exchange, Inc. as of such date. As of March 14, 2014 there were 11,256,712 outstanding shares of MidSouth Bancorp, Inc. common stock.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Company's Proxy Statement for its 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

MIDSOUTH BANCORP, INC.
 2013 Annual Report on Form 10-K
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CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements included in this Report and the documents incorporated by reference herein, other than statements of historical fact, are forward-looking statements (as such term is defined in Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the regulations thereunder), which are intended to be covered by the safe harbors created thereby. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to certain statements under the captions “Business,” “Risk Factors” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.”

The words “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intend,” “may,” “plan,” “will,” “would,” “could,” “should,” “guidance,” “continue,” “project,” “forecast,” “confident,” and similar expressions are typically used to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are based on assumptions and assessments made by management in light of their experience and their perception of historical trends, current conditions, expected future developments and other factors they believe to be appropriate. Any forward-looking statements are not guarantees of our future performance and are subject to risks and uncertainties and may be affected by various factors that may cause actual results, developments and business decisions to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. Some of the factors that may cause actual results, developments and business decisions to differ materially from those contemplated by such forward-looking statements include the factors discussed under the caption “Risk Factors” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” in this Report and the following:

- changes in interest rates and market prices that could affect the net interest margin, asset valuation, and expense levels;
- changes in local economic and business conditions, including, without limitation, changes related to the oil and gas industries, that could adversely affect customers and their ability to repay borrowings under agreed upon terms, adversely affect the value of the underlying collateral related to their borrowings, and reduce demand for loans;
- increased competition for deposits and loans which could affect compositions, rates and terms;
 - changes in the levels of prepayments received on loans and investment securities that adversely affect the yield and value of the earning assets;
- a deviation in actual experience from the underlying assumptions used to determine and establish our allowance for loan losses (“ALLL”), which could result in greater than expected loan losses;
- changes in the availability of funds resulting from reduced liquidity or increased costs;
- the timing and impact of future acquisitions, the success or failure of integrating acquired operations, and the ability to capitalize on growth opportunities upon entering new markets;
- the ability to acquire, operate, and maintain effective and efficient operating systems;
- increased asset levels and changes in the composition of assets that would impact capital levels and regulatory capital ratios;
- loss of critical personnel and the challenge of hiring qualified personnel at reasonable compensation levels;
- legislative and regulatory changes, including the impact of regulations under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) and other changes in banking, securities and tax laws and regulations and their application by our regulators, changes in the scope and cost of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”) insurance and other coverage;
- regulations and restrictions resulting from our participation in government sponsored programs such as the U.S. Treasury’s Small Business Lending Fund, including potential retroactive changes in such programs;
- changes in accounting principles, policies, and guidelines applicable to financial holding companies and banking;
- acts of war, terrorism, cyber intrusion, weather, or other catastrophic events beyond our control; and
- the ability to manage the risks involved in the foregoing.

We can give no assurance that any of the events anticipated by the forward-looking statements will occur or, if any of them does, what impact they will have on our results of operations and financial condition. We disclaim any intent or obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, regardless of whether new information becomes available, future developments occur or otherwise.

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Part I

Item 1 - Business

Overview

The Company was incorporated in 1984 as a Louisiana corporation and is a registered financial holding company headquartered in Lafayette, Louisiana. Its operations have been conducted primarily through its wholly owned bank subsidiary MidSouth Bank, N.A. The Bank, a national banking association, was chartered and commenced operations in 1985. On December 28, 2012, we completed a merger with PSB Financial Corporation (“PSB”), the holding company of Many, Louisiana based The Peoples State Bank. This transaction continued our strategic growth and enhanced the connection between Louisiana and Texas by expanding MidSouth Bank’s presence into central and northwest Louisiana and east Texas. As of December 31, 2013, the Bank operated through a network of 62 offices located in Louisiana and Texas, including a Loan Production Office in Austin, Texas.

Unless otherwise indicated or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this report to “the Company,” “we,” “us,” “our,” or similar references, mean MidSouth Bancorp, Inc. and our subsidiaries, including our banking subsidiary, MidSouth Bank, N.A., on a consolidated basis. References to “MidSouth Bank” or the “Bank” mean our wholly owned banking subsidiary, MidSouth Bank, N.A.

Products and Services

The Bank is community oriented and focuses primarily on offering commercial and consumer loan and deposit services to small and middle market businesses, their owners and employees, and other individuals in our markets. Our community banking philosophy emphasizes personalized service and building broad customer relationships. Deposit products and services offered by the Bank include interest-bearing and noninterest-bearing checking accounts, investment accounts, cash management services, and electronic banking services, including remote deposit capturing services, internet banking, and debit and credit cards. Most of the Bank’s deposit accounts are FDIC-insured up to the maximum allowed, and the Bank customers have access to a world-wide ATM network of more than 50,000 surcharge-free ATMs.

Loans offered by the Bank include commercial and industrial loans, commercial real estate loans (both owner-occupied and non-owner occupied), other loans secured by real estate and consumer loans. We commenced operations during a severe economic downturn in Louisiana more than 25 years ago. Our survival and growth in the ensuing years has instilled in us a conservative operating philosophy. Our conservative attitude impacts our credit and funding decisions, including underwriting loans primarily based on the cash flows of the borrower (rather than just relying on collateral valuations) and focusing lending efforts on working capital and equipment loans to small and mid-sized businesses along with owner-occupied properties.

Our conservative operating philosophy extends to managing the various risks we face. We maintain a separate risk management group to help identify and manage these various risks. This group, which reports directly to the Chairman of our Audit Committee, not to other members of the senior management team, includes our audit, collections, compliance, in-house legal counsel, loan review and security functions and is staffed with experienced accounting and legal professionals.

We are committed to an exceptional level of customer care. We maintain our own in-house call center so that customers enjoy live interaction with employees of the Bank rather than an automated telephone system. Additionally, we provide our employees with the training and technological tools to improve customer care. We also conduct focus groups within the communities we serve and strive to create a two-way dialog to ensure that we are offering the banking products and services that our customers and communities need.

With the PSB merger, we acquired a wholly owned insurance subsidiary, Peoples General Agency (“the Agency”). The Agency has an affiliate relationship with Community Financial Insurance Center, LLC (“CFI”), a Louisiana based independent insurance agency which also serves as the affiliated agency of the Louisiana Bankers Association. CFI offers a wide array of personal, commercial and life and health insurance products. As an affiliate with CFI, the Agency receives a 15% commission on any successful referral to CFI. Commissions were approximately \$6,000 in 2013.

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Markets

We operate in Louisiana and central and east Texas along the Interstate 10, Interstate 49, Highway 90, Interstate 45, Interstate 20, Interstate 30 and Interstate 35 corridors. As of December 31, 2013, our market area in Louisiana included 45 offices and is bound by Lafourche Parish to the south, East Baton Rouge Parish to the east, Caddo Parish to the north and Calcasieu Parish to the west. Our market areas in Texas include 17 offices located in the Beaumont, Houston, Conroe, Magnolia, College Station, Austin, Dallas-Fort Worth, Tyler, and Texarkana areas. For additional information regarding our properties, see Item 2 – Properties of this Report.

Oil and gas is the key industry within our markets. However, medical, technology and research companies continue to develop within these markets thereby diversifying the economy. Additionally, numerous major universities located within our market areas, including Louisiana State University, University of Houston, Rice University, Texas A&M University and University of Louisiana at Lafayette, provide a substantial number of jobs and help to contribute to the educated work force within our markets.

We believe our financial condition, coupled with our scalable operational capabilities, will facilitate future growth, both organically and through acquisition, including potential growth in new market areas.

Competition

We face strong competition in our market areas from both traditional and nontraditional financial services providers, such as commercial banks; savings banks; credit unions; finance companies; mortgage, leasing, and insurance companies; money market mutual funds; brokerage houses; and branches that provide credit facilities. Several of the financial services competitors in our market areas are substantially larger and have far greater resources; however, we have effectively competed by building long-term customer relationships. Customer loyalty has been built through our continued focus on quality customer care enhanced by technology and effective delivery systems.

Other factors, including economic, legislative, and technological changes, also impact our competitive environment. Management continually evaluates competitive challenges in the financial services industry and develops appropriate responses consistent with our overall market strategy.

Employees

As of December 31, 2013, the Bank employed approximately 604 full-time equivalent employees. The Company had no employees who are not also employees of the Bank. Through the Bank, employees receive customary employee benefits, which include an employee stock ownership plan; a 401(K) plan; and life, health and disability insurance plans. Our directors, officers, and employees are important to the success of the Company and play a key role in business development by actively participating in the communities served by the Company. The Company considers the relationship of the Bank with its employees as a whole to be good.

Additional Information

More information on the Company and the Bank is available on the Bank's website at www.midsouthbank.com. The Company is not incorporating by reference into this Report the information contained on its website; therefore, the content of the website is not a part of this Report. Copies of this Report and other reports filed or furnished by the Company pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, including exhibits, are available free of charge on the Company's website under the "Investor Relations" link as soon as reasonably practicable after they have been filed or furnished electronically to the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). Copies of these filings may also be obtained free of charge on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

Supervision and Regulation

Under Federal Reserve policy, we are expected to act as a source of financial strength for, and to commit resources to support, the Bank. This support may be required at times when, absent such Federal Reserve policy, we may not be inclined to provide such support. In addition, any capital loans by a financial holding company to any of its banking subsidiaries are subordinate in right of payment to deposits and to certain other indebtedness of such subsidiary banks. In the event of a financial holding company's bankruptcy, any commitment by a financial holding company to a federal bank regulatory agency to maintain the capital of a banking subsidiary will be assumed by the bankruptcy trustee and entitled to a priority of payment.

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Regulatory Reform

The financial crisis of 2008, including the downturn of global economic, financial and money markets and the threat of collapse of numerous financial institutions, and other recent events have led to the adoption of numerous new laws and regulations that apply to, and focus on, financial institutions. The most significant of these new laws is the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”), which was adopted on July 21, 2010 and, in part, is intended to implement significant structural reforms to the financial services industry. The Dodd-Frank Act is discussed in more detail below.

As a result of the Dodd-Frank Act and other regulatory reforms, the Company is experiencing a period of rapidly changing regulations. These regulatory changes could have a significant impact on how the Company conducts its business. The specific implications of the Dodd-Frank Act and other proposed regulatory reforms cannot yet be predicted and will depend to a large extent on the specific regulations that are adopted in the coming months and years to implement regulatory reform initiatives.

Bank Holding Companies and Financial Holding Companies

Historically, the activities of bank holding companies were limited to the business of banking and activities closely related or incidental to banking. Bank holding companies were generally prohibited from acquiring control of any company that was not a bank and from engaging in any business other than the business of banking or managing and controlling banks. The Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, which took effect on March 12, 2000, dismantled many Depression-era restrictions against affiliation between banking, securities and insurance firms by permitting bank holding companies to engage in a broader range of financial activities, so long as certain safeguards are observed. Specifically, bank holding companies may elect to become “financial holding companies” that may affiliate with securities firms and insurance companies and engage in other activities that are financial in nature or incidental to a financial activity. Thus, with the enactment of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, banks, security firms and insurance companies find it easier to acquire or affiliate with each other and cross-sell financial products. The Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act permits a single financial services organization to offer a more complete array of financial products and services than historically was permitted.

A financial holding company is essentially a bank holding company with significantly expanded powers. Under the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, in addition to traditional lending activities, the following activities are among those that are deemed “financial in nature” for financial holding companies: securities underwriting, dealing in or making a market in securities, sponsoring mutual funds and investment companies, insurance underwriting and agency activities, activities which the Federal Reserve Board determines to be closely related to banking, and certain merchant banking activities.

We elected to become a financial holding company in November 2012. As a financial holding company, we have very broad discretion to affiliate with securities firms and insurance companies, make merchant banking investments, and engage in other activities that the Federal Reserve Board has deemed financial in nature. In order to continue as a financial holding company, we must continue to be well-capitalized, well-managed and maintain compliance with the Community Reinvestment Act (the “CRA”). Depending on the types of financial activities that we may elect to engage in, under the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act’s functional regulation principles, we may become subject to supervision by additional government agencies. The election to be treated as a financial holding company increases our ability to offer financial products and services that historically we were either unable to provide or were only able to provide on a limited basis. As a result, we will face increased competition in the markets for any new financial products and services that we may offer. Likewise, an increased amount of consolidation among banks and securities firms or banks and insurance firms could result in a growing number of large financial institutions that could compete aggressively with us.

Dodd-Frank Act

In July 2010, the Dodd-Frank Act was signed into law. The Dodd-Frank Act implements far-reaching changes across the financial regulatory landscape, including changes that will affect all bank holding companies, financial holding

companies and banks, including us and the Bank, including the following provisions:

Insurance of Deposit Accounts. The Dodd-Frank Act changed the assessment base for federal deposit insurance from the amount of insured deposits to consolidated assets less tangible capital. The Dodd-Frank Act also made permanent the \$250,000 limit for federal deposit insurance and increased the cash limit of Securities Investor Protection Corporation protection from \$100,000 to \$250,000.

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Payment of Interest on Demand Deposits. The Dodd-Frank Act repealed the federal prohibitions on the payment of interest and demand deposits, thereby permitting depository institutions to pay interest on business transaction and other accounts.

Creation of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. The Dodd-Frank Act centralized significant aspects of consumer financial protection by creating a new agency, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (the “CFPB”), which is discussed in more detail below.

Debit Card Interchange Fees. The Dodd-Frank Act amended the Electronic Fund Transfer Act to, among other things, require that debit card interchange fees be reasonable and proportional to the actual cost incurred by the issuer with respect to the transaction. In June 2011, the Federal Reserve Board adopted regulations setting the maximum permissible interchange fee as the sum of 21 cents per transaction and 5 basis points multiplied by the value of the transaction, with an additional adjustment of up to one cent per transaction if the issuer implements additional fraud-prevention standards. Although issuers that have assets of less than \$10 billion are exempt from the Federal Reserve Board’s regulations that set maximum interchange fees, these regulations could significantly impact the interchange fees that financial institutions with less than \$10 billion in assets, such as the Bank, are able to collect.

In addition, the Dodd-Frank Act implements other far-reaching changes to the financial regulatory landscape, including provisions that:

- Restrict the preemption of state law by federal law and disallow subsidiaries and affiliates of national banks from availing themselves of such preemption.

- Impose comprehensive regulation of the over-the-counter derivatives market, subject to significant rulemaking processes, which would include certain provisions that would effectively prohibit insured depository institutions from conducting certain derivatives businesses in the institution itself.

- Require depository institutions with total consolidated assets of more than \$10 billion to conduct regular stress tests and require large, publicly traded bank holding companies and financial holding companies to create a risk committee responsible for the oversight of enterprise risk management.

- Require loan originators to retain 5% of any loan sold or securitized, unless it is a “qualified residential mortgage,” subject to certain exceptions.

- Prohibit banks and their affiliates from engaging in proprietary trading and investing in and sponsoring certain unregistered investment companies (the Volcker Rule).

- Implement corporate governance revisions that apply to all public companies not just financial institutions.

Capital Requirements

We are subject to various regulatory capital requirements administered by the Federal Reserve and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (the “OCC”). Failure to meet minimum capital requirements could result in certain mandatory and possible additional discretionary actions by regulators that, if undertaken, could have a direct material effect on our financial statements. Under capital adequacy guidelines and the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action (described below), we must meet specific capital guidelines that involve quantitative measures of our assets, liabilities, and certain off-balance sheet items as calculated under regulatory accounting policies. Our capital amounts and classification are also subject to judgments by the regulators regarding qualitative components, risk weightings, and other factors. For further detail on capital and capital ratios see discussion under Part II, Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.”

Under the risk-based capital requirements for bank holding companies and financial holding companies, the minimum requirement for the ratio of total capital to risk-weighted assets (including certain off-balance sheet activities, such as standby letters of credit) is 8%. At least half of the total capital (as defined below) is to be composed of common stockholders’ equity, retained earnings, qualifying perpetual preferred stock (in a limited amount in the case of cumulative preferred stock), minority interests in the equity accounts of consolidated subsidiaries, and qualifying trust preferred securities, less goodwill and certain intangibles (“Tier 1 Capital”). The remainder of total capital may consist of qualifying subordinated debt and redeemable preferred stock, qualifying cumulative perpetual preferred stock and

allowance for loan losses (“Tier 2 Capital”, and together with Tier 1 Capital, “Total Capital”). At December 31, 2013, our Tier 1 Capital ratio was 13.47% and Total Capital ratio was 14.19%. As long as our total consolidated assets remain below \$15 billion, under current capital standards we may continue to include our \$28.5 million aggregate principal amount of trust preferred securities issued prior to May 19, 2011 in our Tier 1 and Total Capital calculations.

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The Federal Reserve has established minimum leverage ratio guidelines for bank holding companies and financial holding companies. These requirements provide for a minimum leverage ratio of Tier 1 Capital to adjusted average quarterly assets (“Leverage Ratio”) equal to 3% for bank holding companies and financial holding companies that meet specified criteria, including having the highest regulatory rating. All other bank holding companies and financial holding companies will generally be required to maintain a leverage ratio of at least 4%. Our Leverage Ratio at December 31, 2013 was 9.35%. The capital guidelines also provide that bank holding companies and financial holding companies experiencing internal growth or making acquisitions will be expected to maintain strong capital positions substantially above the minimum supervisory levels without significant reliance on intangible assets. Furthermore, the guidelines provide that the Federal Reserve will continue to consider a “tangible tier 1 leverage ratio” (deducting all intangibles) in evaluating proposals for expansion or to engage in new activity.

The Bank is subject to similar capital requirements adopted by the OCC. The risk-based capital requirements identify concentrations of credit risk and certain risks arising from non-traditional activities, and the management of those risks, as important factors to consider in assessing an institution’s overall capital adequacy. Other factors taken into consideration by federal regulators include: interest rate exposure; liquidity, funding and market risk; the quality and level of earnings; the quality of loans and investments; the effectiveness of loan and investment policies; and management’s overall ability to monitor and control financial and operational risks, including the risks presented by concentrations of credit and non-traditional activities.

Basel III Capital Framework

In July 2013, the Federal Reserve and the OCC issued final rules establishing a new comprehensive capital framework for U.S. banking organizations that would implement the Basel III capital framework and certain provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act. The final rules seek to strengthen the components of regulatory capital, increase risk-based capital requirements, and make selected changes to the calculation of risk-weighted assets. The final rules, among other things:

- revise minimum capital requirements and adjust prompt corrective action thresholds;
- revise the components of regulatory capital and create a new capital measure called “Tier 1 Common Equity,” which must constitute at least 4.5% of risk-weighted assets;
- specify that Tier 1 capital consists only of Tier 1 Common Equity and certain “Additional Tier 1 Capital” instruments meeting specified requirements;
- increase the minimum Tier 1 capital ratio requirement from 4% to 6%;
- retain the existing risk-based capital treatment for 1-4 family residential mortgage exposures;
- permit most banking organizations, including the Company, to retain, through a one-time permanent election, the existing capital treatment for accumulated other comprehensive income;
- implement a new capital conservation buffer of common equity Tier 1 capital equal to 2.5% of risk-weighted assets, which will be in addition to the 4.5% common equity Tier 1 capital ratio and be phased in over a three year period beginning January 1, 2016 which buffer is generally required to make capital distributions and pay executive bonuses;
- increase capital requirements for past-due loans, high volatility commercial real estate exposures, and certain short-term loan commitments;
- require the deduction of mortgage servicing assets and deferred tax assets that exceed 10% of common equity Tier 1 capital in each category and 15% of common equity Tier 1 capital in the aggregate; and
- remove references to credit ratings consistent with the Dodd-Frank Act and establish due diligence requirements for securitization exposures.

Under the final rules, compliance is required beginning January 1, 2015, for most banking organizations including the Company and the Bank, subject to a transition period for several aspects of the final rules, including the new minimum capital ratio requirements, the capital conservation buffer, and the regulatory capital adjustments and deductions. Requirements to maintain higher levels of capital could adversely impact our return on equity. We are still

in the process of assessing the impacts of these complex final rules; however, we believe we will continue to exceed all estimated well-capitalized regulatory requirements on a fully phased-in basis.

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The Volcker Rule

The Dodd-Frank Act required the federal bank regulatory agencies to adopt rules that prohibit banks and their affiliates from engaging in proprietary trading and investing in and sponsoring certain unregistered investment companies (defined as hedge funds and private equity funds). The statutory provision is commonly called the “Volcker Rule”. On December 10, 2013, the Federal Reserve and other federal agencies issued final rules to implement the Volcker Rule. In relevant part, these final rules would have prohibited banking entities from owning collateralized debt obligations (CDOs) backed by trust preferred securities (TruPS), effective July 21, 2015. However, subsequent to these final rules the U.S. financial regulatory agencies issued an interim rule to exempt CDOs backed by TruPS from the Volcker Rule and the final rule, provided that (a) the CDO was established prior to May 19, 2010, (b) the banking entity reasonably believes that the CDO’s offering proceeds were used to invest primarily in TruPS issued by banks with less than \$15 billion in assets, and (iii) the banking entity acquired the CDO investment on or before December 10, 2013. At December 31, 2013, we had \$464,000 of exempt CDOs with a fair market value of \$735,000.

The Durbin Amendment

The Dodd-Frank Act included provisions which restrict interchange fees to those which are “reasonable and proportionate” for certain debit card issuers and limits the ability of networks and issuers to restrict debit card transaction routing. This statutory provision is known as the “Durbin Amendment”. The Federal Reserve issued final rules implementing the Durbin Amendment on June 29, 2011. In the final rules, interchange fees for debit card transactions were capped at \$0.21 plus five basis points in order to be eligible for a safe harbor such that the fee is conclusively determined to be reasonable and proportionate. Another related rule also permits an additional \$0.01 per transaction “fraud prevention adjustment” to the interchange fee if certain Federal Reserve standards are implemented, including an annual review of fraud prevention policies and procedures. With respect to network exclusivity and merchant routing restrictions, it is now required that all debit cards participate in at least two unaffiliated networks so that the transactions initiated using those debit cards will have at least two independent routing channels. While the interchange fee restrictions contained in the Durbin Amendment, and the rules promulgated thereunder, only apply to debit card issuers with \$10 billion or more in total consolidated assets, these regulations could significantly affect the interchange fees that financial institutions with less than \$10 billion in assets, including the Bank, are able to collect.

Prompt Corrective Action

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991 (“FDICIA”) established a system of prompt corrective action to resolve the problems of undercapitalized institutions. Under this system, the federal banking regulators have established five capital categories (well capitalized, adequately capitalized, undercapitalized, significantly undercapitalized and critically undercapitalized), and are required to take certain mandatory supervisory actions, and are authorized to take other discretionary actions, with respect to institutions in the three undercapitalized categories. The severity of the action will depend upon the capital category in which the institution is placed. Generally, subject to a narrow exception, the banking regulator must appoint a receiver or conservator for an institution that is critically undercapitalized. The federal banking agencies have set the relevant capital level for each category.

An institution that is categorized as undercapitalized, significantly undercapitalized, or critically undercapitalized is required to submit an acceptable capital restoration plan to its appropriate federal regulatory agency. A bank holding company and financial holding company must guarantee that a subsidiary depository institution meets its capital restoration plan, subject to certain limitations. The controlling holding company's obligation to fund a capital restoration plan is limited to the lesser of 5.0% of an undercapitalized subsidiary's assets or the amount required to meet regulatory capital requirements. An undercapitalized institution is also generally prohibited from increasing its average total assets, making acquisitions, establishing any branches or engaging in any new line of business, except under an accepted capital restoration plan or with FDIC approval. In addition, the appropriate federal regulatory agency may treat an undercapitalized institution in the same manner as it treats a significantly undercapitalized institution if it determines that those actions are necessary.

At December 31, 2013, the Bank had the requisite capital level to qualify as “well capitalized” under the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action.

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Insurance of Accounts and FDIC Insurance Assessments

The Bank's deposits are insured by the Deposit Insurance Fund (the "DIF") of the FDIC up to the standard maximum insurance amount for each deposit insurance ownership category. As of January 1, 2013, the basic limit on FDIC deposit insurance coverage is \$250,000 per depositor. Under the FDIA, the FDIC may terminate deposit insurance upon a finding that the institution has engaged in unsafe and unsound practices, is in an unsafe or unsound condition to continue operations, or has violated any applicable law, regulation, rule, order or condition imposed by the FDIC, subject to administrative and potential judicial hearing and review processes.

The DIF is funded by assessments on banks and other depository institutions. As required by the Dodd-Frank Act, in February 2011, the FDIC approved a final rule that changed the assessment base for DIF assessments from domestic deposits to average consolidated total assets minus average tangible equity (defined as Tier 1 capital). In addition, as also required by the Dodd-Frank Act, the FDIC has adopted a new large-bank pricing assessment scheme, set a current target "designated reserve ratio" (described in more detail below) of 2% for the DIF, and established a lower assessment rate schedule when the reserve ratio reaches 1.15% and, in lieu of dividends, provides for a lower assessment rate schedule when the reserve ratio reaches 2% and 2.5%.

An institution's assessment rate depends upon the institution's assigned risk category, which is based on supervisory evaluations, regulatory capital levels and certain other factors. Initial base assessment rates ranged from 2.5 to 45 basis points. The FDIC may make the following further adjustments to an institution's initial base assessment rates: decreases for long-term unsecured debt, including most senior unsecured debt and subordinated debt; increases for holding long-term unsecured debt or subordinated debt issued by other insured depository institutions; and increases for broker deposits in excess of 10% of domestic deposits for insurances not well rated and well capitalized. As of December 31, 2013, our risk category required a quarterly payment of approximately 5.90 basis points per \$100 of assessable deposits.

The Dodd-Frank Act transferred to the FDIC increased discretion with regard to managing the required amount of reserves for the DIF, or the "designated reserve ratio." Among other changes, the Dodd-Frank Act (i) raised the minimum designated reserve ratio to 1.35% and removed the upper limit on the designated reserve ratio, (ii) requires that the designated reserve ratio reach 1.35% by September 2020, and (iii) requires the FDIC to offset the effect on institutions with total consolidated assets of less than \$10 billion of increasing of raising the designated reserve ratio from 1.15% to 1.35%. The FDIA requires that the FDIC consider the appropriate level for the designated reserve ratio on at least an annual basis. In October 2010, the FDIC adopted a new DIF restoration plan to ensure that the fund reserve ratio reaches 1.35% by September 30, 2020, as required by the Dodd-Frank Act.

Allowance for Loan and Lease Losses

The Allowance for Loan and Lease Losses (the "ALLL") represents one of the most significant estimates in the Bank's financial statements and regulatory reports. Because of its significance, the Bank has established a system by which it develops, maintains, and documents a comprehensive, systematic, and consistently applied process for determining the amounts of the ALLL and the provision for loan and lease losses. The Interagency Policy Statement on the ALLL encourages all banks and federal savings institutions to ensure controls are in place to consistently determine the ALLL in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, the federal savings association's stated policies and procedures, management's best judgment and relevant supervisory guidance. The Bank's estimate of credit losses reflects consideration of significant factors that affect the collectability of the portfolio as of the evaluation date.

Safety and Soundness Standards

The Federal Deposit Insurance Act, as amended by the FDICIA and the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994, requires the federal bank regulatory agencies to prescribe standards, by regulations or guidelines, relating to internal controls, information systems and internal audit systems, loan documentation, credit underwriting, interest rate risk exposure, asset growth, asset quality, earnings, stock valuation

and compensation, fees and benefits, and such other operational and managerial standards as the agencies deem appropriate. The federal bank regulatory agencies have adopted a set of guidelines prescribing safety and soundness standards pursuant to FDICIA, as amended. The guidelines establish general standards relating to internal controls and information systems, internal audit systems, loan documentation, credit underwriting, interest rate exposure, asset growth and compensation and fees and benefits. In general, the guidelines require, among other things, appropriate systems and practices to identify and manage the risks and exposures specified in the guidelines. The guidelines prohibit excessive compensation as an unsafe and unsound practice and describe compensation as excessive when the amounts paid are unreasonable or disproportionate to the services performed by an executive officer, employee, director, or principal shareholder. In addition, the agencies adopted regulations that authorize, but do not require, an agency to order an institution that has been given notice by an agency that it is not satisfying any of such safety and soundness standards to submit a compliance plan. If, after being so notified, an institution fails to submit an acceptable compliance plan or fails in any material respect to implement an acceptable compliance plan, the agency must issue an order directing action to correct the deficiency and may issue an order directing other actions of the types to which an undercapitalized institution is subject under the “prompt corrective action” provisions of FDICIA. See “Prompt Corrective Action” above. If an institution fails to comply with such an order, the agency may seek to enforce such order in judicial proceedings and to impose civil money penalties. The federal regulatory agencies also proposed guidelines for asset quality and earnings standards.

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Interagency Appraisal and Evaluation Guidelines

In December 2010, the federal banking agencies issued the Interagency Appraisal and Evaluation Guidelines.