VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP

Form 4

December 16, 2008

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

Section 16.

Form 4 or

FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

CROCITT		Symbol VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP [VLY]					(Check all applicable)					
(Last) (First) 1455 VALLEY ROAD		(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/12/2008				Director 10% Owner Other (specify below) below) EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT					
WAYNE,	(Street) NJ 07470-		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)						6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting			
(City)	(State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned											
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Execution I any	xecution Date, if Transaction Disposed of (D			cquired (A)			7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership			
Common Stock	12/12/2008	12/17/200	08	S		2,500	D	\$ 17.1	34,699	I	Wife	
Common Stock	12/12/2008	12/17/200	08	S		1,500	D	\$ 16.8403	12,103	I	Custodian/child	
Common Stock	12/12/2008	12/17/200	08	S		6,983	D	\$ 16.9256	117,642	D		
Common Stock	12/12/2008	12/17/200	08	S		1,150	D	\$ 16.91	10,953	I	Custodian/child	
Common Stock									13,344	D		

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Common Stock (401k Plan)

2,610 D

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

 $\label{thm:convergence} \begin{tabular}{ll} Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned \\ (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) \end{tabular}$

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. orNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		te	7. Title and 2. Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securities
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option/NQ	\$ 18.77					11/27/2002	11/27/2011	Common Stock	12,697
Stock Options	\$ 15.91					11/28/2001	11/28/2010	Common Stock	19,346
Stock Options	\$ 19.66					11/18/2003	11/18/2012	Common Stock	16,082
Stock Options	\$ 18.77					11/27/2003	11/27/2011	Common Stock	5,729
Stock Options	\$ 22.92					11/17/2004	11/17/2013	Common Stock	15,316
Stock Options	\$ 23.01					11/16/2005	11/16/2014	Common Stock	14,587
Stock Options	\$ 21.31					11/14/2006	11/14/2015	Common Stock	16,785
Stock Options	\$ 23.32					11/13/2007	11/13/2016	Common Stock	18,191
Stock Options	\$ 17.81					02/12/2009	02/12/2018	Common Stock	17,325

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Director 10% Owner Officer Other

CROCITTO PETER P 1455 VALLEY ROAD

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

WAYNE, NJ 07470-

Signatures

/s/ PETER **CROCITTO** 12/16/2008

**Signature of Reporting Date Person

Explanation of Responses:

If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

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.

Reporting Owners 3

Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).