

WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION
 Form 4
 January 26, 2012

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 *
 Sarver Robert Gary

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)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 01/24/2012

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 Chairman and CEO

C/O WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION, ONE E. WASHINGTON STREET, STE. 1400

(Street)

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

PHOENIX, AZ 85004

(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) | 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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Common Stock | 01/24/2012 | | A | (A) or (D) V Amount 130,347 (1) | \$ 0 2,800,601 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 4,090 | I | 401K Plan |
| Common Stock | | | | | 50,000 | I | Robert G. Sarver Trust dated 09/29/1997 |

| | | | |
|--------------|---------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Common Stock | 199,758 | I | Sarver Family Trust dated 09/29/1997 |
| Common Stock | 30,000 | I | Spouse |
| Common Stock | 166,022 | I | SF III Ltd Partnership |
| Common Stock | 33,105 | I | Vulture II Corporation |

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

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

| 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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 6) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| | | | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Sarver Robert Gary C/O WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION ONE E. WASHINGTON STREET, STE. 1400 PHOENIX, AZ 85004 | X | | Chairman and CEO | |

Signatures

/s/ Dale Gibbons
(Attorney-in-fact)

01/26/2012

__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).

Transaction includes 130,347 RSAs granted on 1/24/12, of which 54,347 RSAs were granted pursuant to the Western Alliance

- (1) Bancorporation 2011 Annual Bonus Plan for the portion of the year during which the Company held funds received pursuant to the United States Government's Troubled Asset Relief Program.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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