

PARK NATIONAL CORP /OH/
Form 8-K
January 23, 2017

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) January 23, 2017

Park National Corporation
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ohio 1-13006 31-1179518
(State or other jurisdiction (Commission (IRS Employer
of incorporation) File Number) Identification No.)

50 North Third Street, P.O. Box 3500, Newark, Ohio 43058-3500
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(740) 349-8451
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 2.02 - Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On January 23, 2017, Park National Corporation (“Park”) issued a news release (the “Financial Results News Release”) announcing financial results for the three months and year ended December 31, 2016. A copy of the Financial Results News Release is included as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated by reference herein.

Park's management uses certain non-GAAP (generally accepted accounting principles) financial measures to evaluate Park's performance. Specifically, management reviews return on average tangible equity, return on average tangible assets, tangible equity to tangible assets and tangible book value per share. Management has included in the Financial Results News Release information relating to the annualized return on average tangible equity, annualized return on average tangible assets, tangible equity to tangible assets and tangible book value per share for the three months ended and at December 31, 2016, September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015 and the return on average tangible equity, return on average tangible assets, tangible equity to tangible assets and tangible book value per share for the fiscal year ended and at December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015. For purposes of calculating the return on average tangible equity, a non-GAAP financial measure, net income for each period is divided by average tangible equity during the period. Average tangible equity equals average shareholders' equity during the applicable period less average goodwill during the applicable period. For the purpose of calculating the return on average tangible assets, a non-GAAP financial measure, net income for each period is divided by average tangible assets during the period. Average tangible assets equals average assets during the applicable period less average goodwill during the applicable period. For the purpose of calculating tangible equity to tangible assets, a non-GAAP financial measure, tangible equity is divided by tangible assets. Tangible equity equals shareholders' equity less goodwill, in each case at period end. Tangible assets equals total assets less goodwill, in each case at period end. For the purpose of calculating tangible book value per share, a non-GAAP financial measure, tangible equity is divided by common shares outstanding at period end. Management believes that the disclosure of return on average tangible equity, return on average tangible assets, tangible equity to tangible assets and tangible book value per share presents additional information to the reader of the consolidated financial statements, which, when read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP, assists in analyzing Park's operating performance, ensures comparability of operating performance from period to period, and facilitates comparisons with the performance of Park's peer financial holding companies and bank holding companies, while eliminating certain non-operational effects of acquisitions. In the Financial Results News Release, Park has provided a reconciliation of average tangible equity to average shareholders' equity, average tangible assets to average assets, tangible equity to shareholders' equity and tangible assets to total assets solely for the purpose of complying with SEC Regulation G and not as an indication that return on average tangible equity, return on average tangible assets, tangible equity to tangible assets and tangible book value per share are substitutes for return on average equity, return on average assets, shareholders' equity to total assets and book value per share, respectively, as determined by GAAP.

Item 5.02 - Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

In the Financial Results News Release, Park announced that Matthew R. Miller, Chief Accounting Officer and principal accounting officer of Park and Chief Accounting Officer of PNB, was appointed by the respective Boards of Directors of Park and PNB to serve as Executive Vice President of Park and PNB effective April 1, 2017 and will no longer be the Chief Accounting Officer and principal accounting officer of Park or the Chief Accounting Officer of PNB as of that date. The respective Boards of Directors of Park and PNB took action with respect to these appointments on January 23, 2017.

In the Financial Results News Release, Park also announced that Kelly A. Edds, who currently serves as Vice President of PNB in the accounting department, was appointed by the respective Boards of Directors of Park and PNB to serve as the Chief Accounting Officer and principal accounting officer of Park and the Chief Accounting Officer of PNB effective April 1, 2017, with each Board of Directors taking action on January 23, 2017.

Ms. Edds, who is 34, has served as Vice President of PNB since December 2012 and served as Assistant Vice President of PNB from April 2010 to December 2012. Prior to joining PNB, Ms. Edds was employed by Deloitte & Touche, LLP from September 2004 until March 2010, serving audit clients in the financial services industry. Ms. Edds does not have any family relationship with any member of Park's Board of Directors or any of Park's executive officers. Ms. Edds and members of her immediate family are customers of and have had banking relationships with PNB in the ordinary course of business and in compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations. The portions of the Financial Results New Release which addresses the appointments of Matthew R. Miller and Kelly A. Edds are incorporated herein by reference.

Item 7.01 - Regulation FD Disclosure

Financial Results by segment

The table below reflects the net income (loss) by segment for each quarter of 2016 and for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015, and 2014. Park's segments include The Park National Bank ("PNB"), Guardian Financial Services Company ("GFSC"), SE Property Holdings, LLC ("SEPH") and all other which primarily consists of Park as the "Parent Company."

Net income (loss) by segment

(In thousands)	Q4 2016	Q3 2016	Q2 2016	Q1 2016	2016	2015	2014
PNB	\$16,138	\$25,491	\$21,078	\$21,744	\$84,451	\$84,345	\$82,907
GFSC	263	640	626	(1,836)	(307)	1,423	1,175
Parent Company	(989)	(665)	(1,069)	(1,834)	(4,557)	(4,549)	(5,050)
Ongoing operations	\$15,412	\$25,466	\$20,635	\$18,074	\$79,587	\$81,219	\$79,032
SEPH	4,590	1,983	(637)	612	6,548	(207)	4,925
Total Park	\$20,002	\$27,449	\$19,998	\$18,686	\$86,135	\$81,012	\$83,957

The category "Parent Company" above excludes the results for SEPH, an entity which is winding down commensurate with the disposition of SEPH's nonperforming assets. Management considers the "Ongoing operations" results, which exclude the results of SEPH, to reflect the business of Park and Park's subsidiaries going forward. The discussion below provides additional information regarding the segments that make up the "Ongoing operations", followed by additional information regarding SEPH.

The Park National Bank (PNB)

The table below reflects PNB's net income for each quarter of 2016 and for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015, and 2014.

(In thousands)	Q4 2016	Q3 2016	Q2 2016	Q1 2016	2016	2015	2014
Net interest income	\$57,382	\$57,033	\$56,006	\$57,155	\$227,576	\$220,879	\$218,641
Provision for (recovery of) loan losses	3,061	(3,345)	1,362	1,533	2,611	7,665	3,517
Other income	19,793	19,279	18,508	17,223	74,803	75,188	69,384
Other expense	51,144	42,327	42,731	41,360	177,562	167,476	163,641
Income before income taxes	\$22,970	\$37,330	\$30,421	\$31,485	\$122,206	\$120,926	\$120,867
Federal income taxes	6,832	11,839	9,343	9,741	37,755	36,581	37,960
Net income	\$16,138	\$25,491	\$21,078	\$21,744	\$84,451	\$84,345	\$82,907

Net interest income of \$227.6 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 represented a \$6.7 million, or 3.0% increase, compared to \$220.9 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. The increase was the result of a \$7.4 million increase in interest income offset by a \$697,000 increase in interest expense.

The \$7.4 million increase in interest income was due to a \$10.3 million increase in interest income on loans, offset by a \$2.9 million decrease in interest income on investments. The increase in interest income on loans was largely the result of a \$216 million, or 4.4%, increase in average loans from \$4.9 billion for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, to \$5.1 billion for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. Included in interest income for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 was \$801,000 in income related to PNB participations in legacy Vision Bank ("Vision") assets, compared to \$241,000 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015.

The \$697,000 increase in interest expense was due to a \$1.1 million increase in interest expense on deposits, offset by a \$393,000 decrease in interest expense on borrowings.

The provision for loan losses of \$2.6 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 represented an improvement of \$5.1 million, compared to a provision of loan losses of \$7.7 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. Refer to the “Credit Metrics and (Recovery of) Provision for Loan Losses” section for additional details regarding the level of the (recovery of) provision for loan losses recognized in each period presented above.

Other expense of \$177.6 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 represented an increase of \$10.1 million, or 6.0%, compared to \$167.5 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. The \$10.1 million increase was primarily related to a \$5.6 borrowing prepayment penalty in 2016 compared to \$532,000 in 2015, a \$2.0 million increase in furniture and equipment expense, a \$2.0 million increase in contribution expense, a \$1.7 million increase in professional fees and services, and a \$1.0 million increase in non-loan related losses. Increases were offset by a decrease of \$2.1 million related to employee benefits expense, largely related to a decline in medical expenses.

PNB's results for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015, and 2014, included income and expense related to participations in legacy Vision assets. The impact of these participations on particular items within PNB's income and expense for these periods is detailed in the table below:

(In thousands)	2016 PNB as reported	Adjustments ⁽¹⁾	PNB as adjusted	2015 PNB as reported	Adjustments ⁽¹⁾	PNB as adjusted	2014 PNB as reported	Adjustments ⁽¹⁾	PNB as adjusted
Net interest income	\$ 227,576	\$ 801	\$ 226,775	\$ 220,879	\$ 241	\$ 220,638	\$ 218,641	\$ 309	\$ 218,332
Provision for (recovery of) loan losses	2,611	(3,118)	5,729	7,665	(1,453)	9,118	3,517	(6,198)	9,715
Other income	74,803	194	74,609	75,188	1,225	73,963	69,384	1,256	68,128
Other expense	177,562	662	176,900	167,476	700	166,776	163,641	2,032	161,609
Income before income taxes	\$ 122,206	\$ 3,451	\$ 118,755	\$ 120,926	\$ 2,219	\$ 118,707	\$ 120,867	\$ 5,731	\$ 115,136
Federal income taxes	37,755	1,066	36,689	36,581	671	35,910	37,960	1,800	36,160
Net income	\$ 84,451	\$ 2,385	\$ 82,066	\$ 84,345	\$ 1,548	\$ 82,797	\$ 82,907	\$ 3,931	\$ 78,976

(1) Adjustments consist of the impact on the particular items reported in PNB's income statement of PNB participations in legacy Vision assets.

The table below provides certain balance sheet information and financial ratios for PNB as of December 31, 2016 and 2015.

(In thousands)	December 31, 2016	December 31, 2015	% change from 12/31/15
Loans	\$ 5,234,828	\$ 5,029,072	4.09 %
Allowance for loan losses	48,782	54,453	(10.41) %
Net loans	5,186,046	4,974,619	4.25 %
Investment securities	1,573,320	1,641,539	(4.16) %
Total assets	7,389,538	7,229,764	2.21 %
Average assets ⁽¹⁾	7,337,438	7,219,898	1.63 %
Efficiency ratio	58.26	% 56.40	% 3.30 %
Return on average assets	1.15	% 1.17	% (1.71) %

(1) Average assets for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

Loans outstanding at December 31, 2016 were \$5.23 billion, compared to \$5.03 billion at December 31, 2015, an increase of \$206 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, or 4.1%. The loan growth in 2016 consisted of commercial loan growth of \$82.2 million (3.2%), consumer loan growth of \$152.5 million (15.6%), and HELOC loan growth of \$1.1 million (0.5%), offset by a reduction in residential loan balances of \$28.9 million (2.3%).

PNB's allowance for loan losses decreased by \$5.7 million, or 10.4%, to \$48.8 million at December 31, 2016, compared to \$54.5 million at December 31, 2015. Net charge-offs were \$8.3 million, or 0.16% of total average loans, for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. During the fourth quarter of 2016, PNB charged-off \$3.1 million in

specific reserves for which provision expense had already been recognized. Refer to the “Credit Metrics and (Recovery of) Provision for Loan Losses” section for additional information regarding PNB's loan portfolio and the level of (recovery of) provision for loan losses recognized in each period presented.

Guardian Financial Services Company (GFSC)

The table below reflects GFSC's net income (loss) for each quarter of 2016 and for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014.

(In thousands)	Q4 2016	Q3 2016	Q2 2016	Q1 2016	2016	2015	2014
Net interest income	\$1,458	\$1,472	\$1,440	\$1,504	\$5,874	\$6,588	\$7,457
Provision for (recovery of) loan losses	229	(313)	1,444	527	1,887	1,415	1,544
Other (loss) income	—	(1)	—	—	(1)	2	(1)
Other expense	825	800	(966)	3,798	4,457	2,984	4,103
Income (loss) before income taxes	\$404	\$984	\$962	\$(2,821)	\$(471)	\$2,191	\$1,809
Federal income taxes (benefit)	141	344	336	(985)	(164)	768	634
Net income (loss)	\$263	\$640	\$626	\$(1,836)	\$(307)	\$1,423	\$1,175

The provision for loan losses of \$1.9 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 represented an increase of \$472,000, compared to \$1.4 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. Refer to the "Credit Metrics and (Recovery of) Provision for Loan Losses" section for additional information regarding Guardian's loan portfolio and the level of (recovery of) provision for loan losses recognized in each period presented.

Other expense of \$4.5 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 represented a \$1.5 million increase, compared to \$3.0 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. The fluctuations in other expense during 2016, and increase from 2015, primarily related to the evaluation of litigation accruals.

The table below provides certain balance sheet information and financial ratios for GFSC as of December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015.

(In thousands)	December 31, 2016	December 31, 2015	% change from 12/31/15
Loans	\$32,661	\$35,469	(7.92)%
Allowance for loan losses	1,842	2,041	(9.75)%
Net loans	30,819	33,428	(7.80)%
Total assets	32,268	35,793	(9.85)%
Average assets ⁽¹⁾	33,370	37,675	(11.43)%
Return on average assets	(0.92)%	3.78%	N.M.

(1) Average assets for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

Park Parent Company

The table below reflects the Park Parent Company net loss for each quarter of 2016 and for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014.

(In thousands)	Q4 2016	Q3 2016	Q2 2016	Q1 2016	2016	2015	2014
Net interest (expense) income	\$(125)	\$20	\$(32)	\$(1)	\$(138)	\$239	\$(2,012)
Provision for loan losses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other income	576	131	116	132	955	513	175
Other expense	2,345	1,840	2,209	3,337	9,731	9,972	8,000
Loss before income tax benefit	\$(1,894)	\$(1,689)	\$(2,125)	\$(3,206)	\$(8,914)	\$(9,220)	\$(9,837)
Federal income tax benefit	(905)	(1,024)	(1,056)	(1,372)	(4,357)	(4,671)	(4,787)
Net loss	\$(989)	\$(665)	\$(1,069)	\$(1,834)	\$(4,557)	\$(4,549)	\$(5,050)

The net interest (expense) income for Park's parent company included, for all periods presented, interest income on loans to SEPH (paid off on December 14, 2016) and on subordinated debt investments in PNB, which were eliminated in the consolidated Park National Corporation totals. Additionally, net interest (expense) income included, for all periods presented, interest expense related to the \$30.00 million of 7% Subordinated Notes due April 20, 2022 issued by Park to accredited

investors on April 20, 2012. Results for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 included, in addition to the items previously discussed, interest expense related to the \$35.25 million of 10% Subordinated Notes due December 23, 2019 issued by Park to accredited investors on December 23, 2009. Park paid off the \$35.25 million outstanding principal amount of the 10% Subordinated Notes due December 23, 2019, plus accrued interest, on December 24, 2014, the earliest redemption date allowable under the related note purchase agreement dated December 23, 2009.

Other income of \$955,000 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 represented an increase of \$442,000, or 86.2%, compared to \$513,000 for the same period in 2015. This increase was due to \$461,000 in income from an equity investment.

SEPH

The table below reflects SEPH's net income (loss) for each quarter of 2016 and for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014. SEPH holds the remaining assets and liabilities retained by Vision subsequent to the sale of the Vision business on February 16, 2012. Prior to holding the remaining Vision assets, SEPH held OREO assets that were transferred from Vision to SEPH. This segment represents a run-off portfolio of the legacy Vision assets.

(In thousands)	Q4 2016	Q3 2016	Q2 2016	Q1 2016	2016	2015	2014
Net interest income (expense)	\$3,534	\$8	\$71	\$1,161	\$4,774	\$(74)	\$958
Recovery of loan losses	(4,572)	(3,708)	(169)	(1,150)	(9,599)	(4,090)	(12,394)
Other income	1,702	1,126	112	34	2,974	1,848	5,991
Other expense	2,748	1,789	1,332	1,404	7,273	6,182	11,766
Income (loss) before income taxes	\$7,060	\$3,053	\$(980)	\$941	\$10,074	\$(318)	\$7,577
Federal income tax expense (benefit)	2,470	1,070	(343)	329	3,526	(111)	2,652
Net income (loss)	\$4,590	\$1,983	\$(637)	\$612	\$6,548	\$(207)	\$4,925

Net interest income increased to \$4.8 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 from net interest expense of \$74,000 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. The increase was largely the result of payments received from certain SEPH impaired loan relationships.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, SEPH had net recoveries of loan losses of \$9.6 million. The net recoveries during 2016 consisted of \$447,000 in charge-offs offset by recoveries from loans previously charged off of \$10.0 million.

The \$1.1 increase in other income for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, compared to the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, was primarily the result of payments received from certain SEPH impaired loan relationships.

The \$1.1 million increase in other expense for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, compared to the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, was primarily the result of a \$1.0 million decrease in expense related to reserves established for potential mortgage loan repurchases, offset by increases in legal fees of \$390,000 and management and consulting services of \$2.1 million.

In the aggregate, for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, SEPH realized \$18.0 million in operating income items, consisting of interest income, recoveries from loans previously charged off, and other income, offset by operating expense items totaling \$7.9 million, consisting of interest expense and other expense.

Legacy Vision assets at SEPH totaled \$20.3 million as of December 31, 2016. In addition to these SEPH assets, PNB participations in legacy Vision assets totaled \$9.6 million at December 31, 2016.

Park National Corporation

The table below reflects Park's consolidated net income for each quarter of 2016 and for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014.

(In thousands)	Q4 2016	Q3 2016	Q2 2016	Q1 2016	2016	2015	2014
Net interest income	\$62,249	\$58,533	\$57,485	\$59,819	\$238,086	\$227,632	\$225,044
(Recovery of) provision for loan losses	(1,282)	(7,366)	2,637	910	(5,101)	4,990	(7,333)
Other income	22,071	20,535	18,736	17,389	78,731	77,551	75,549
Other expense	57,062	46,756	45,306	49,899	199,023	186,614	187,510
Income before income taxes	\$28,540	\$39,678	\$28,278	\$26,399	\$122,895	\$113,579	\$120,416
Federal income taxes	8,538	12,229	8,280	7,713	36,760	32,567	36,459
Net income	\$20,002	\$27,449	\$19,998	\$18,686	\$86,135	\$81,012	\$83,957

Credit Metrics and (Recovery of) Provision for Loan Losses

On a consolidated basis, Park reported a recovery of loan losses for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 of \$5.1 million, compared to a provision for loan losses of \$5.0 million for fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. The table below shows a breakdown of the (recovery of) provision for loan losses by reportable segment.

(In thousands)	Q4 2016	Q3 2016	Q2 2016	Q1 2016	2016	2015	2014
PNB	\$3,061	\$(3,345)	\$1,362	\$1,533	\$2,611	\$7,665	\$3,517
GFSC	229	(313)	1,444	527	1,887	1,415	1,544
Park Parent	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Ongoing Operations	\$3,290	\$(3,658)	\$2,806	\$2,060	\$4,498	\$9,080	\$5,061
SEPH	(4,572)	(3,708)	(169)	(1,150)	(9,599)	(4,090)	(12,394)
Total Park	\$(1,282)	\$(7,366)	\$2,637	\$910	\$(5,101)	\$4,990	\$(7,333)

PNB had net charge-offs of \$8.3 million, GFSC had net charge-offs of \$2.1 million, and SEPH had net recoveries of \$9.6 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, resulting in net charge-offs of \$769,000 for Park, on a consolidated basis. Recovery of loan losses at Park on a consolidated basis were \$5.1 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. Excluding SEPH, Park had net charge-offs of \$10.4 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. The provision for loan losses for Park, excluding SEPH, was \$4.5 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, which was \$5.9 million lower than net charge-offs, excluding SEPH, of \$10.4 million. The \$10.4 million in net charge-offs, excluding SEPH, were in excess of the provision for loan losses due to a \$3.6 million reduction in specific reserves on impaired loans as well as Park's ongoing evaluation of the required allowance for loan losses to cover probable incurred losses in the Park loan portfolio.

The table below provides additional information related to specific reserves and general reserves for Park's ongoing operations as of December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014.

(In thousands)	12/31/2016	12/31/2015	12/31/2014
Total allowance for loan losses	\$50,624	\$56,494	\$54,352
Specific reserve	548	4,191	3,660
General reserve	\$50,076	\$52,303	\$50,692
Total loans	\$5,259,503	\$5,052,932	\$4,805,725
Impaired commercial loans	58,676	66,232	51,323
Total loans less impaired commercial loans	\$5,200,827	\$4,986,700	\$4,754,402

General reserve as a % of total loans less impaired commercial loans	0.96	% 1.05	% 1.07	%
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Note: The table above includes only those loans at PNB and GFSC, as these are the entities that have an ALLL balance. The table in the "Asset Quality Information" section of the financial information included with the Financial Results News Release, includes all Park loans (including those at SEPH) and thus shows slightly different information.

The allowance for loan losses of \$50.6 million at December 31, 2016 represented a \$5.9 million or 10.4% decrease, compared to \$56.5 million at December 31, 2015. This decrease was the result of a \$3.6 million decrease in specific reserves and a \$2.2 million decrease in general reserves.

SAFE HARBOR STATEMENT UNDER THE PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995

Park cautions that any forward-looking statements contained in this Current Report on Form 8-K or made by management of Park are provided to assist in the understanding of anticipated future financial performance. Forward-looking statements provide current expectations or forecasts of future events and are not guarantees of future performance. The forward-looking statements are based on management's expectations and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. Although management believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statements. Risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially include, without limitation: Park's ability to execute our business plan successfully and within the expected timeframe; general economic and financial market conditions, specifically in the real estate markets and the credit markets, either nationally or in the states in which Park and our subsidiaries do business, may experience a slowing or reversal of the recent economic expansion in addition to continuing residual effects of recessionary conditions and an uneven spread of positive impacts of recovery on the economy and our counterparties, including adverse impacts on the demand for loan, deposit and other financial services, delinquencies, defaults and counterparties' ability to meet credit and other obligations; changes in interest rates and prices may adversely impact the value of securities, loans, deposits and other financial instruments and the interest rate sensitivity of our consolidated balance sheet as well as reduce interest margins and impact loan demand; changes in consumer spending, borrowing and saving habits, whether due to changing business and economic conditions, legislative and regulatory initiatives, or other factors; changes in unemployment; changes in customers', suppliers', and other counterparties' performance and creditworthiness; asset/liability repricing risks and liquidity risks; our liquidity requirements could be adversely affected by changes to regulations governing bank and bank holding company capital and liquidity standards as well as by changes in our assets and liabilities; competitive factors among financial services organizations could increase significantly, including product and pricing pressures, changes to third-party relationships and our ability to attract, develop and retain qualified bank professionals; clients could pursue alternatives to bank deposits, causing us to lose a relatively inexpensive source of funding; uncertainty regarding the nature, timing and effect of changes in banking regulations or other regulatory or legislative requirements affecting the respective businesses of Park and our subsidiaries, including major reform of the regulatory oversight structure of the financial services industry and changes in laws and regulations concerning taxes, pensions, bankruptcy, consumer protection, accounting, bank products and services, fiduciary standards, securities and other aspects of the financial services industry, specifically the reforms provided for in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the "Dodd-Frank Act") and the Basel III regulatory capital reforms, as well as regulations already adopted and which may be adopted in the future by the relevant regulatory agencies, including the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the OCC, the FDIC, and the Federal Reserve Board, to implement the Dodd-Frank Act's provisions, the Budget Control Act of 2011, the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, the JOBS Act, the FAST Act and the Basel III regulatory capital reforms; the effect of changes in accounting policies and practices, as may be adopted by the Financial Accounting Standards Board, the SEC, the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board and other regulatory agencies, and the accuracy of our assumptions and estimates used to prepare our financial statements; the effect of trade, monetary, fiscal and other governmental policies of the U.S. federal government, including money supply and interest rate policies of the Federal Reserve Board; disruption in the liquidity and other functioning of U.S. financial markets; the impact on financial markets and the economy of any changes in the credit ratings of the U.S. Treasury obligations and other U.S. government-backed debt, as well as issues surrounding the levels of U.S., European and Asian government debt and concerns regarding the creditworthiness of certain sovereign governments, supranationals and financial institutions in Europe and Asia; the uncertainty surrounding the United Kingdom's exit from the European Union and its consequences; our litigation and regulatory compliance exposure, including any adverse developments in legal proceedings or other claims and unfavorable resolution of regulatory and other governmental examinations or other inquiries; the adequacy of our risk management program; the ability to secure confidential information and deliver products and services through the use of computer systems and telecommunications networks; a failure in or breach of our operational or security systems or infrastructure, or those of our third-party vendors and other service providers, including as a result of cyber attacks; fraud, scams and schemes of third parties; the impact of widespread natural and

other disasters, pandemics, dislocations, terrorist activities or international hostilities on the economy and financial markets generally or on us or our counterparties specifically; demand for loans in the respective market areas served by Park and our subsidiaries; and other risk factors relating to the banking industry as detailed from time to time in Park's reports filed with the SEC including those described in "Item 1A. Risk Factors" of Part I of Park's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. Park does not undertake, and specifically disclaims any obligation, to publicly release the results of any revisions that may be made to update any forward-looking statement to reflect the events or circumstances after the date on which the forward-looking statement was made, or reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events, except to the extent required by law.

Item 8.01 - Other Events

Declaration of Cash Dividend

As reported in the Financial Results News Release, on January 23, 2017, the Park Board of Directors declared a \$0.94 per share quarterly cash dividend in respect of Park's common shares. The dividend is payable on March 10, 2017 to common shareholders of record as of the close of business on February 17, 2017. A copy of the Financial Results News Release is included as Exhibit 99.1 and the portion thereof addressing the declaration of the cash dividend by Park's Board of Directors is incorporated by reference herein.

Stock Repurchase Authorization

As reported in the Financial Results News Release, on January 23, 2017, the Park Board of Directors authorized Park to purchase, from time to time, up to an aggregate of 500,000 common shares of Park National Corporation, which will be held as treasury shares. Purchases may be made through NYSE MKT, in the over-the-counter market or in privately negotiated transactions, in each case in compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the rules applicable to issuers having securities listed on NYSE MKT. Purchases will be made upon such terms and conditions and at such times and in such amounts as any one or more of the authorized officers of Park deem to be appropriate, subject to market conditions, regulatory requirements and other factors, and in the best interest of Park and Park's shareholders. The portion of the Financial Results New Release which addresses the authorization of the common share repurchase is incorporated by reference.

Appointment of Certain Officers

As reported in the Financial Results News Release, on January 23, 2017, each of the Boards of Directors of Park and PNB took action to appoint Matthew R. Miller to serve as Executive Vice President of Park and PNB, effective April 1, 2017. Mr. Miller, who is 38, has served as Chief Accounting Officer and principal accounting officer of Park and the Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer of PNB since December 2012 and served as Vice President of PNB from April 2009 to December 2012. Prior to joining PNB, Mr. Miller was employed by Deloitte & Touche, LLP from September 2001 until March 2009, serving audit clients in the financial services industry. The portion of the Financial Results New Release which addresses the appointment of Matthew R. Miller is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01 - Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(a) Not applicable

(b) Not applicable

(c) Not applicable

(d) Exhibits. The following exhibit is included with this Current Report on Form 8-K:

Exhibit No.	Description
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99.1	News Release issued by Park National Corporation on January 23, 2017 addressing financial results for the three months and fiscal year ended December 31, 2016.
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signature page follows.]

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

PARK NATIONAL CORPORATION

Dated: January 23, 2017 By: /s/ Brady T. Burt
Brady T. Burt
Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

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Park National Corporation

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