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£ Written communication pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

£ Solicitation 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))

Page 1 of 18 Pages

The Index to Exhibits is on Page 3



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

On February 4, 2013, the registrants subsidiary, American River Bank (the "Bank"), entered into a salary continuation agreement with Robert H. Muttera, Chief Credit Officer for the Bank.

The foregoing description is qualified by reference to the Agreement attached as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits

(99.1) Salary Continuation Agreement between American River Bank and Robert H. Muttera.

SIGNATURES

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.

AMERICAN RIVER BANKSHARES

/s/ Mitchell A. Derenzo

February 4, 2013 Mitchell A. Derenzo, Chief Financial Office

Page 2 of 18

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit No.	Description	Page
99.1	Salary Continuation Agreement between American River Bank and Robert H. Muttera	4-18