

PEAPACK GLADSTONE FINANCIAL CORP
Form SC 13G
February 11, 2019
UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
(Amendment No.)*

Peapack-Gladstone Financial Corporation
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock
(Title of Class of Securities)

704699107
(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2018
(Date of Event which Requires Filing
of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)
- Rule 13d-1(c)
- Rule 13d-1(d)

*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

CUSIP No. 704699107 13G Page 2 of 8 Pages

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF
ABOVE PERSON

Basswood Capital Management,
L.L.C.

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX
IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*

(a)

(b)

SEC USE ONLY

3

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF
ORGANIZATION

Delaware

SOLE VOTING POWER

5 NUMBER OF

0

SHARES OF SHARED VOTING POWER

6 BENEFICIALLY OWNED

1,057,398

BY SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

7 EACH REPORTING

0

PERSON SHARED DISPOSITIVE

8 WITH POWER

1,057,398

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY
EACH REPORTING PERSON

1,057,398

10 CHECK BOX IF THE
AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW
(9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN
SHARES

11 PERCENT OF CLASS
REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN
ROW (9)

5.5%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

IA

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1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Matthew Lindenbaum

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
(a)
(b)
SEC USE ONLY

3

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

United States

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH

6 0 SHARED VOTING POWER

7 1,057,398 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

8 0 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

9 1,057,398 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

10 1,057,398 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

12 5.5% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

IN/HC

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1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF
ABOVE PERSON

Bennett Lindenbaum
2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX
IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
(a)
(b)
3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF
ORGANIZATION

United States
SOLE VOTING POWER

5 NUMBER OF
OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY
6 OWNED BY EACH
7 REPORTING PERSON
8 WITH

0
SHARED VOTING POWER
1,057,398
SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
0
SHARED DISPOSITIVE
POWER

9 1,057,398
AGGREGATE AMOUNT
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY
EACH REPORTING PERSON

10 1,057,398
CHECK BOX IF THE
AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW
(9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN
SHARES

11 PERCENT OF CLASS
REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN
ROW (9)

12 5.5%
TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*
IN/HC

Item
1(a) Name of Issuer:

Peapack-Gladstone Financial Corporation

Item
1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

500 Hills Drive, Suite 300
Bedminster, New Jersey 07921

Item
2(a) Name of Person Filing:

The information required by Item 2(a) is set forth in Row 1 of the cover page hereto for each Reporting Person and is incorporated herein by reference for each such Reporting Person.

Item
2(b) Address of Principal Business Office or, if none, Residence:

c/o Basswood Capital Management, L.L.C.
645 Madison Avenue, 10th Floor
New York, NY 10022

Item
2(c) Citizenship:

The information required by Item 2(c) is set forth in Row 4 of the cover page hereto for each Reporting Person and is incorporated herein by reference for each such Reporting Person.

Item
2(d) Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock

Item
2(e) CUSIP Number:

704699107

Item 3 Statement filed pursuant to §§240.13d-1(b) or 240.13d-2(b) or (c):

The information required by Item 3 is set forth in Row 12 of the cover page hereto for each Reporting Person and is incorporated herein by reference for each such Reporting Person.

Item 4 Ownership:

The information required by Items 4(a)-(c) is set forth in Rows 5-11 of the cover page hereto for each Reporting Person and is incorporated herein by reference for each such Reporting Person.

Item 5 Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:

Not Applicable

Item 6 Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person:

Not Applicable

Item 7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company or Control Person:

See Exhibit 99.2

Item 8 Identification and Classification of Members of the Group:

Not Applicable

Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of Group:

Not Applicable

Item
10 Certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

[Remainder of page intentionally left blank]

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, each of the undersigned certifies that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: February 11, 2019

BASSWOOD CAPITAL
MANAGEMENT, L.L.C.

By: /s/ Matthew Lindenbaum
Name: Matthew Lindenbaum
Title: Managing Member

/s/ Matthew Lindenbaum
Matthew Lindenbaum, an
individual

/s/ Bennett Lindenbaum
Bennett Lindenbaum, an
individual