

FINGER JENNIFER J
Form 4
January 26, 2009

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 *
FINGER JENNIFER J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
WESTAMERICA
BANCORPORATION [WABC]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
01/26/2009

____ Director
 Officer (give title below)
____ 10% Owner
____ Other (specify below)
SVP/Treasurer

WESTAMERICA
BANCORPORATION, 4550
MANGELS BLVD.

(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

FAIRFIELD, CA 94534

(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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	09/24/2007		G	V 10 ⁽¹⁾ A \$ 0	1,136.809	D	
Common Stock	01/26/2009		A	2,500 ⁽²⁾ A \$ 0	3,636.809	D	
Common Stock					25,030	I	Deferred
Common Stock					611.901 ⁽³⁾	I	Esop

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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)

Table with columns: 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 (Instr. 3 and 4), 10. Date of Reporting Transaction (Instr. 3 and 4), 11. Amount or Number of Shares.

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

FINGER JENNIFER J
WESTAMERICA BANCORPORATION
4550 MANGELS BLVD.
FAIRFIELD, CA 94534

SVP/Treasurer

Signatures

/s/ Jennifer J.
Finger 01/26/2009

**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).
(1) These shares were gifted to the reporting person as part of the issuer's award program for all employees that rewards longevity . Shares are gifted to each employee as they reach their tents, fifteenth anniversary, etc.
(2) The Restricted Performance Shares granted in 2006 vested on 1/26/09 upon meeting performance criteria.
(3) Incudes allocations through 12/31/08 in Westamerica Bancorporation's Tax Deferred Savings/Retirement (ESOP) Plan.

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.