

AMERICAN RIVER BANKSHARES  
Form 8-K  
February 09, 2012

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 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 reported) February 7, 2012

American River Bankshares  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its chapter)

California  
(State or other jurisdiction  
Of incorporation)

0-31525  
(Commission  
File Number)

68-0352144  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

3100 Zinfandel Drive, Suite 450, Rancho Cordova, California  
(Address of principal executive offices)

95670  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (916) 851-0123

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

- 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))

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

On February 7, 2012, the registrants subsidiary, American River Bank, entered into an employment agreement, effective February 1, 2012, with recently hired Chief Credit Officer Robert H. Muttera.

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

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits

(99.1) Employment 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  
Mitchell A. Derenzo, Chief Financial Office

February 8, 2012

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