

WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION

Form 8-K

October 09, 2012

**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): October 9, 2012**

**WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Nevada**  
(State or other jurisdiction

of incorporation)

**001-32550**  
(Commission

File Number)

**88-0365922**  
(IRS Employer

Identification No.)

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**One E. Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85004**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (602) 389-3500**

**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 8.01 Other Events.

As previously announced, on August 17, 2012, Western Alliance Bancorporation (the Company) entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger with Western Liberty Bancorp (Western Liberty). On October 9, 2012, a memorandum of understanding was entered into regarding the settlement of the action captioned *Raul v. Ader, et al.*, which was filed in the District Court of the State of Nevada, Clark County, on behalf of a putative class of Western Liberty stockholders against Western Liberty, Western Liberty's board of directors and Western Alliance. In connection with the settlement contemplated by the memorandum of understanding, which is subject to court approval, Western Liberty has agreed to make certain additional disclosures to its stockholders. A supplement, which contains the Additional Disclosure, to the proxy statement/prospectus previously provided to Western Liberty stockholders in connection with the proposed merger is being filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and mailed to the stockholders of Western Liberty. A copy of the supplement is attached to the related press release which is filed as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and is incorporated herein by reference. The settlement will not affect the merger consideration to be received by Western Liberty stockholders or the timing of the special meeting of Western Liberty stockholders scheduled for October 17, 2012.

#### Additional Information

This communication is being made in respect of the proposed merger involving the Company and Western Liberty.

In connection with the proposed merger with Western Liberty, the Company filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) a Registration Statement on Form S-4, as amended, that included a proxy statement of Western Liberty that also constitutes a prospectus of the Company. Western Liberty mailed the proxy statement/prospectus to its stockholders. **Investors and security holders are urged to read the proxy statement/prospectus, including the supplement thereto, regarding the proposed merger because it contains important information.** You may obtain a free copy of the proxy statement/prospectus, the supplement and other related documents filed by the Company and Western Liberty with the SEC at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). The proxy statement/prospectus, the supplement and the other documents may also be obtained for free by accessing the Company's website at [www.westernalliancebancorp.com](http://www.westernalliancebancorp.com) under the tab Investor Relations and then under the heading Financial Documents or by accessing Western Liberty's website at [www.westernlibertybank.com](http://www.westernlibertybank.com) under the tab Investor Relations and then under the heading Financial Information.

#### Participants in the Transactions

The Company, Western Liberty and their respective directors, executive officers and certain other members of management and employees may be soliciting proxies from Western Liberty stockholders in favor of the merger with the Company. Information regarding the persons who may, under the rules of the SEC, be considered participants in the solicitation of the Western Liberty stockholders in connection with the proposed merger is set forth in the proxy statement/prospectus filed with the SEC.

You can find information about the executive officers and directors of the Company in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 and in its definitive proxy statement filed with the SEC on March 16, 2012, as supplemented. You can find information about Western Liberty's executive officers and directors in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, as amended, and in its definitive proxy statement filed with the SEC on April 26, 2010. You can obtain free copies of these documents from the Company or Western Liberty using the information above.

**This communication shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities.**

**Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

This Form 8-K contains forward-looking statements that relate to expectations, beliefs, projections, future plans and strategies, anticipated events or trends and similar expressions concerning matters that are not historical facts. The forward-looking statements contained herein reflect our current views about future events and financial performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties, assumptions and changes in circumstances that may cause our actual results to differ significantly from historical results and those expressed in any forward-looking statement. Some factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from historical or expected results include: failure of the parties to satisfy the closing conditions in either merger agreement in a timely manner or at all; failure of the shareholders of Western Liberty to approve the applicable merger agreement; failure to settle the pending litigation involving the merger; disruptions to the parties' businesses as a result of the announcement and pendency of the merger; costs or difficulties related to the integration of the business following the merger; factors listed in the Form 10-K as filed with the SEC; changes in general economic conditions, either nationally or locally in the areas in which we conduct or will conduct our business; inflation, interest rate, market and monetary fluctuations; increases in competitive pressures among financial institutions and businesses offering similar products and services; higher defaults on our loan portfolio than we expect; changes in management's estimate of the adequacy of the allowance for credit losses; legislative or regulatory changes or changes in accounting principles, policies or guidelines; management's estimates and projections of interest rates and interest rate policy; the execution of our business plan; and other factors affecting the financial services industry generally or the banking industry in particular.

We do not intend and disclaim any duty or obligation to update or revise any industry information or forward-looking statements set forth in this press release to reflect new information, future events or otherwise.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

- (a) Not applicable.
  
- (b) Not applicable.
  
- (c) Not applicable.
  
- (d) Exhibits.

Exhibit

| No.  | Description                           |
|------|---------------------------------------|
| 99.1 | Press Release, dated October 9, 2012. |

**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.

WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION

(Registrant)

/s/ Dale Gibbons  
Dale Gibbons  
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Date: October 9, 2012

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

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