

Ameris Bancorp  
Form 8-K  
October 19, 2011

**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 19, 2011**

**Ameris Bancorp**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

**Georgia**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

**001-13901**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**58-1456434**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

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**310 First Street, S.E., Moultrie, Georgia**

**(Address of Principal Executive Offices)**

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (229) 890-1111**

**31768**

**(Zip Code)**

**(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 (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

- .. 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.**

On October 19, 2011, Ameris Bancorp (the Company) issued a press release announcing the appointment as of that date of Stephen A. Melton as Executive Vice President and Chief Risk Officer of the Company and Ameris Bank, the wholly-owned banking subsidiary of the Company.

A copy of the press release regarding Mr. Melton's appointment is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits.

99.1 Press release dated October 19, 2011.

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Company has duly caused this Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

AMERIS BANCORP

By: /s/ Edwin W. Hortman, Jr.  
Edwin W. Hortman, Jr.  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Dated: October 19, 2011

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>
99.1	Press release dated October 19, 2011.