

WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION

Form 4

January 26, 2011

**FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287

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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 \*  
**WALL MERRILL**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**C/O WESTERN ALLIANCE  
BANCORPORATION, ONE E  
WASHINGTON STREET**

(Street)

**PHOENIX, AZ 85004**

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**WESTERN ALLIANCE  
BANCORPORATION [WAL]**3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
**01/24/2011**4. If Amendment, Date Original  
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

☐ Director ☐ 10% Owner  
☒ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify below)  
EVP and Chief Admin. Officer6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
☒ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
☐ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person**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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock                    | 01/24/2011                           |                                                    | F                              | 1,698 D                                                           | \$ 7.21 92,275 <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                 | D                                                        |                                   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |                                                    |                                |                                                                   | 3,233 <sup>(2)</sup>                                                                          | I                                                        | By 401(k) Plan                    |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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(9-02)

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3,<br>4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Underlying<br>Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Nu<br>Deriv<br>Secur<br>Bene<br>Own<br>Follo<br>Repor<br>Trans<br>(Instr |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                     |                                                                    |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V (A) (D)                                                                                                          | Date<br>Exercisable                                            | Expiration<br>Date                                                        | Title                                               | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares                                      |

## Reporting Owners

### Reporting Owner Name / Address

### Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

WALL MERRILL  
C/O WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION  
ONE E WASHINGTON STREET  
PHOENIX, AZ 85004

EVP and Chief Admin. Officer

## Signatures

/s/ Dale Gibbons  
(Attorney-in-fact) 01/26/2011

\_\_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) Total beneficially owned contains 28,687 RSAs granted on 1/25/2010.

(2) Reflects current shares held in the 401(k) Plan to include Employer match.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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