

Zember Dennis J JR  
Form 4  
January 22, 2009

**FORM 4**

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

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

**OMB APPROVAL**

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287  
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2005  
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response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
Zember Dennis J JR

(Last) (First) (Middle)

P.O. BOX 3668

(Street)

MOULTRIE, GA 31776

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol

Ameris Bancorp [ABCB]

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

01/20/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original  
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Officer (give title \_\_\_\_ Other (specify  
below) below)

EVP & CFO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price		
Common	01/20/2009		A		10,000	A	\$ 7.68	54,610.316 (1)	D
Common								450	I
Common								450	I
									Joint w/Son
									Joint w/Son

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of  
information contained in this form are not  
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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

number.

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

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)			
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option Award	\$ 7.68	01/20/2009		A		15,000 <u>(2)</u>		01/31/2014	01/31/2019	Common	15,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Zember Dennis J JR P.O. BOX 3668 MOULTRIE, GA 31776			EVP & CFO	

## Signatures

Dennis J. Zember, Jr., by Cara P. Horne,  
Attorney-In-Fact 01/22/2009

\_\_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) This total includes 374,316 shares acquired by the reporting person as a participant in stock purchase dividends reinvestment plans.

(2) Options issued under Ameris Bancorp Omnibus Stock Ownership and Long-Term Incentive Plan. Up to 20% of the total option grant amount may vest annually based upon the achievement of annual performance benchmarks.

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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