

WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION
 Form 4
 February 10, 2009

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

OMB APPROVAL
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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 *
 JOHNSON MARIANNE BOYD

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION [WAL]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 01/30/2009

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

C/O WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION, 2700 WEST SAHARA AVENUE

(Street)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

LAS VEGAS, NV 89102

(City) (State) (Zip)

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | | (A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 72,010 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 322,053 | I | By the Marianne E. Boyd Trust Dated March 7, 1989 |
| Common Stock | | | | | 232,338 | I | By BG-05 Limited Partnership |

| | | | |
|--------------|---------|---|--|
| Common Stock | 9,638 | I | By William & Myong Boyd Children's Trust |
| Common Stock | 257,143 | I | By Boyd 2005 Irrevocable Trust, dated April 14, 2005 |
| Common Stock | 421,747 | I | By Boyd-05 Grantor Retained Annuity Trust #2 |
| Common Stock | 525,187 | I | By Boyd-05 Grantor Retained Annuity Trust #3 |

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

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(9-02)

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) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------|----------------------------|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 7.61 | 01/30/2009 | | A | 5,000 | (1) | 01/30/2016 | Common Stock | 5,000 | | |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|--------------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| JOHNSON MARIANNE BOYD C/O WESTERN ALLIANCE BANCORPORATION 2700 WEST SAHARA AVENUE LAS VEGAS, NV 89102 | X | | | |

Signatures

/s/ Dale Gibbons, 02/10/2009
Attorney-in-Fact

**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) The options vest in four equal installments beginning January 30, 2010.

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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