

THORSON JOHN A  
Form 4  
January 27, 2010

**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 \*  
THORSON JOHN A

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
WESTAMERICA  
BANCORPORATION [WABC]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
01/25/2010

\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
SVP/Chief Financial Officer

WESTAMERICA  
BANCORPORATION, 4550  
MANGELS BLVD

(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

94534

(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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (D) Price  |   |  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 01/25/2010                           |  | M                              | 3,510 A \$ 39.4062  | 3,540.7051  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 01/25/2010                           |  | S                              | 3,510 D \$ 57.25  | 30.7051   | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 415   | I  | By Daughter R   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 415   | I  | By Daughter   |

|              |                        |   |               |
|--------------|------------------------|---|---------------|
| Common Stock | 5,507                  | I | S<br>By Trust |
| Common Stock | 0                      | I | Deferred      |
| Common Stock | 284,898 <sup>(1)</sup> | I | Esop          |

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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Non-qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)  | \$ 39.4062   | 01/25/2010                           |  | M                              | 3,510   | 01/25/2002 <sup>(2)</sup> 01/25/2011                     | Common Stock  |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                             |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                     | Other |
| THORSON JOHN A<br>WESTAMERICA BANCORPORATION<br>4550 MANGELS BLVD<br>94534 |               |           | SVP/Chief Financial Officer |       |

## Signatures

/s/John "Robert" A. Thorson  
01/27/2010  
Date

\*\*Signature of Reporting  
Person

## 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) Includes allocations through 12/31/2009, to Westamerica Bancorporation's Tax Deferred Savings/Retirement (ESOP) Plan.
- (2) Options vest ratably over three years beginning one year from date of grant.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.