

SIMMONS FIRST NATIONAL CORP

Form 8-K

December 15, 2017

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

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Form 8-K

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**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event Reported): December 13, 2017

**Simmons First National Corporation**  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

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

**0-6253**  
(Commission File Number)

**71-0407808**  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification  
Number)

**501 Main Street, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

**(870) 541-1000**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Not Applicable**  
(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:

- 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))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR §230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2). Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. [  ]

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**Item 5.05. Amendment to Registrants Code of Ethics, or Waiver of a Provision of the Code of Ethics.**

On December 13, 2017, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of Simmons First National Corporation (“Company”) approved amendments to the Company’s Code of Ethics (“Code”) to clarify the circumstances under which representatives of the Company may accept gifts, as well as the types of gifts that may be accepted.

The amendments to the Code are effective December 13, 2017. The text of the Code, as amended, is attached hereto as Exhibit 14.1 and incorporated herein by reference. This description of the amendments is qualified in its entirety by reference to the text thereof.

**Item 8.01. Other Events.**

On December 15, 2017, the Company announced a change in its practice concerning the release of its quarterly earnings. Going forward, the Company intends to release its quarterly earnings on a Monday afternoon and hold a conference call to review the release Tuesday morning.

On December 15, 2017, the Company issued a press release announcing its fourth quarter 2017 earnings release and conference call schedule. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

**Forward-Looking Statements**

Certain statements contained in this communication may not be based on historical facts and are “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These forward-looking statements may be identified by reference to a future period(s) or by the use of forward-looking terminology, such as “anticipate,” “estimate,” “expect,” “foresee,” “may,” “might,” “will,” “would,” “could” or “intend,” future or conditional verb tenses, and variations or negatives of such terms. The forward-looking statements include, without limitation, those relating to the Company’s future growth, revenue, assets, asset quality, profitability and customer service, critical accounting policies, net interest margin, non-interest revenue, market conditions related to the Company’s common stock repurchase program, allowance for loan losses, the effect of certain new accounting standards on the Company’s financial statements, income tax deductions, credit quality, the level of credit losses from lending commitments, net interest revenue, interest rate sensitivity, loan loss experience, liquidity, capital resources, market risk, earnings, effect of pending litigation, acquisition strategy, legal and regulatory limitations and compliance and competition.

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on the forward-looking statements contained in this document in that actual results could differ materially from those indicated in such forward-looking statements, due to a variety of factors. These factors include, but are not limited to, changes in the Company’s operating or expansion strategy, availability of and costs associated with obtaining adequate and timely sources of liquidity, the ability to maintain credit quality, possible adverse rulings, judgments, settlements and other outcomes of pending litigation, the ability of the Company to collect amounts due under loan agreements, changes in consumer preferences, effectiveness of the Company’s interest rate risk management strategies, laws and regulations affecting financial institutions in general or relating to taxes, the effect of pending or future legislation, the ability of the Company to repurchase its common stock on favorable terms, the ability of the Company to successfully implement its mergers and acquisitions strategy, changes in interest rates and capital markets, inflation, customer acceptance of the Company’s products and services, and other risk factors. Other relevant risk factors may be detailed from time to time in the Company’s press releases and filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of this Report, and we undertake no obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that occur after the date of this Report.

Annualized, pro forma, projected and estimated numbers are used for illustrative purpose only, are not forecasts, and may not reflect actual results.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

David Garner

Investor Relations Officer

Simmons First National Corporation

(870) 541-1000

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

Exhibit 14.1 Amended and Restated Simmons First National Corporation Code of Ethics (December 13, 2017).

Exhibit 99.1 Press release issued on December 15, 2017

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**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**Simmons First National Corporation**

Date: December 15, 2017

By: /s/ Robert A. Fehlman  
Robert A. Fehlman  
Senior Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer  
and Treasurer