

VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP  
Form 8-K  
December 23, 2009

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

**FORM 8-K**

**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 22, 2009**

**VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP**

**(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)**

**New Jersey**  
**(State or Other Jurisdiction**  
  
**of Incorporation)**

**1-11277**  
**(Commission**  
  
**File Number)**

**22-2477875**  
**(I.R.S. Employer**  
  
**Identification Number)**

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1455 Valley Road, Wayne, New Jersey  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)  
(973) 305-8800

07470  
(Zip Code)

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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 (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

- .. 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))

**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On December 22, 2009, Valley National Bancorp ( Valley ) announced that it received approval from the U.S. Department of the Treasury (the Treasury ) for its request to redeem the final \$100 million of the \$300 million of Valley 's Series A Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock (the Preferred Stock ) issued to the Treasury pursuant to the Troubled Asset Relief Program Capital Purchase Program originally issued to the Treasury in November 2008. On December 23, 2009, Valley expects to pay approximately \$100.5 million to the Treasury to repurchase the shares of Preferred Stock, including accrued and unpaid dividends for such shares. Valley 's redemption of the Preferred Stock is not subject to additional conditions or stipulations from the Treasury. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99 and is incorporated herein by reference.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

*Exhibit*

99 Press Release dated December 22, 2009.

**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.

Dated: December 23, 2009

**VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP**

By:

/s/ IRA D. ROBBINS  
**Ira D. Robbins**  
**First Senior Vice President and Treasurer**