

WESTAMERICA BANCORPORATION

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
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
HANSEN DENNIS R

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)

WESTAMERICA
BANCORPORATION, 4550
MANGELS BLVD

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
01/21/2009

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
X Officer (give title below) ____ Other (specify below)
SVP/Systems & Operations Mgr.

(Street)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
X 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

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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(9-02)

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

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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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
Non-qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 43.015	01/21/2009		A	19,600	01/21/2010 ⁽¹⁾ 01/21/2019	Common Stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
HANSEN DENNIS R WESTAMERICA BANCORPORATION 4550 MANGELS BLVD 94534			SVP/Systems & Operations Mgr.	

Signatures

/s/ Dennis R.
Hansen
01/22/2009
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) Options vests 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.

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