

Ameris Bancorp
Form 4
November 30, 2016

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 *
STERN WILLIAM H

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
Ameris Bancorp [ABCB]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
PO BOX 3668

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
05/18/2016

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

MOULTRIE, GA 31776

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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 (A) or (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 05/18/2016 | | A | 1,613 (1) A \$ 0 | 14,630.7157 (2) (3) | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 2,337 | I | Children |
| Common Stock | | | | | 337 | I | Spouse |
| Common Stock | | | | | 2,777 | I | Family Trust |
| Common Stock | | | | | 234 | I | Family Foundation |
| | 11/23/2016 | | G | V 993 D \$ 0 | | D | |

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Common Stock 14,766.8844
(3)

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

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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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Transaction (Instr. 3) |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| STERN WILLIAM H PO BOX 3668 MOULTRIE, GA 31776 | | X | | |

Signatures

William H. Stern by Angela A. Redd, attorney in fact 11/30/2016
 **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) Restricted stock grant pursuant to the Ameris Bancorp 2014 Omnibus Equity Compensation Plan, vesting on the earlier of (i) May 18, 2017 and (ii) the date of the 2017 annual shareholder's meeting.
- (2) This total includes 520.8935 shares acquired by the reporting person as a participant in an employee stock purchase dividend reinvestment plan.

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- (3) This total includes 1129.1687 shares acquired by the reporting person as a participant in an employee stock purchase dividend reinvestment plan.

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.