

LAI MICHAEL W  
Form 4  
February 09, 2006

**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 \*  
LAI MICHAEL W

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
EAST WEST BANCORP INC  
[EWBC]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
EAST WEST BANK, 4355 GEARY BLVD.  
  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
02/09/2006

\_\_\_\_ Director  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Executive Vice-President

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94118

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

(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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Price   |  |   |
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount  |  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 02/09/2006                           |  | M                              |   | 10,000  | A  | \$ 9.4688   |
| Common Stock                    | 02/09/2006                           |  | S                              |   | 10,000  | D  | 9,738   |

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

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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

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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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 9.4688  | 02/09/2006                           |  | M                              | 10,000  | 10/16/2001 <sup>(2)</sup> 10/16/2010                     | Common Stock 10,000   |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                          |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                  | Other |
| LAI MICHAEL W<br>EAST WEST BANK<br>4355 GEARY BLVD.<br>SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94118 |               |           | Executive Vice-President |       |

## Signatures

Douglas P. Krause,  
Attorney-in-Fact

02/09/2006

\*\*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) Sales prices of securities sold range from \$35.3132 to \$35.5094
- (2) The options vest in four equal annual installments beginning on October 16, 2001.

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.