

EAST WEST BANCORP INC
 Form 4
 July 26, 2006

FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
 CHOW DONALD SANG

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)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 07/24/2006

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

Executive Vice President

EAST WEST BANK, 135 N. LOS ROBLES AVE. 7TH FLOOR

(Street)

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

PASADENA, CA 91101

(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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price |
| Common Stock | 07/24/2006 | | M | | 2,400 | A | \$ 7.039 (1) |
| Common Stock | 07/24/2006 | | S | | 2,400 | D | \$ 39.59 (2) |
| Common Stock | 07/25/2006 | | M | | 2,000 | A | \$ 12.0937 |
| Common Stock | 07/25/2006 | | S | | 2,000 | D | \$ 40 |

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

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SEC 1474
(9-02)

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) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 7.9375 | 07/24/2006 | | M | 1,000 | 08/31/2001 ⁽³⁾ 08/31/2010 | Common Stock | 1,000 |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 12.0937 | 07/24/2006 | | M | 1,000 | 01/16/2002 ⁽⁴⁾ 01/16/2011 | Common Stock | 1,000 |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 11.685 | 07/24/2006 | | M | 400 | 09/17/2002 ⁽⁵⁾ 09/17/2011 | Common Stock | 400 |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 12.0937 | 07/25/2006 | | M | 2,000 | 01/16/2002 ⁽⁴⁾ 01/16/2011 | Common Stock | 2,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| CHOW DONALD SANG EAST WEST BANK | | | Executive Vice President | |

135 N. LOS ROBLES AVE. 7TH FLOOR
PASADENA, CA 91101

Signatures

Douglas P. Krause,
Attorney-in-Fact

07/26/2006

__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) 1,000 shares were granted at an option price of \$12.0937; 1,000 shares were granted at an option price of \$7.9375; and 400 shares were granted at an option price of \$11.685.
- (2) Sales prices of securities sold ranged from \$39.4775 to \$39.75.
- (3) The options vest in four equal annual installment beginning on August 31, 2001.
- (4) The options vest in four equal annual installment beginning on January 16, 2002.
- (5) The options vest in four equal annual installment beginning on September 17, 2002.

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.