EAST WEST BANCORP INC Form 8-K January 04, 2011

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

December 29, 2010

Date of Report (date of earliest event reported)

EAST WEST BANCORP, INC. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Commission file number 000-24939

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization) 95-4703316 (IRS Employer Identification Number)

135 N Los Robles Ave., 7th Floor, Pasadena, California 91101 (Address of principal executive offices including zip code)

(626) 768-6000 (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.):

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR240.13e-(c))

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East West Bancorp, Inc. Current Report of Form 8-K

Item 8.01. Other Events.

The registrant issued a press release on December 29, 2010, announcing the full repayment of \$306.5 million of preferred stock issued under the TARP capital purchase program, as well as repayment of \$1.8 million of related dividends. A copy of the press release is filed as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit Description

99.1 Press Release, dated December 29, 2010

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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.

Date: January 3, 2011

EAST WEST BANCORP, INC.

By: /s/ Irene H. Oh Irene H. Oh

Executive Vice President and

Chief Financial Officer

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit

Number Description 99.1 Press Release, dated December 29, 2010.

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