

Tolda Thomas J.
Form 3
April 23, 2008

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *

Â Tolda Thomas J.

(Last) (First) (Middle)

135 N. LOS ROBLES AVE. 7TH
FLOOR

(Street)

PASADENA,Â CAÂ 91101

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Date of Event Requiring
Statement

(Month/Day/Year)

04/21/2008

3. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol

EAST WEST BANCORP INC [EWBC]

4. Relationship of Reporting
Person(s) to Issuer

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

(Check all applicable)

___ Director ___ 10% Owner

X Officer ___ Other
(give title below) (specify below)

Executive Vice President

6. Individual or Joint/Group

Filing(Check Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting
Person

___ Form filed by More than One
Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security
(Instr. 4)

2. Amount of Securities
Beneficially Owned
(Instr. 4)

3. Ownership
Form:
Direct (D)
or Indirect
(I)
(Instr. 5)

4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial
Ownership
(Instr. 5)

Restricted Common Stock ⁽¹⁾

18,423

D Â

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**Persons who respond to the collection of
information contained in this form are not
required to respond unless the form displays a
currently valid OMB control number.**

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative
Security
(Instr. 4)

2. Date Exercisable and
Expiration Date
(Month/Day/Year)

Date Exercisable

3. Title and Amount of
Securities Underlying
Derivative Security
(Instr. 4)

Title

4. Conversion
or Exercise
Price of
Derivative
Security

5. Ownership
Form of
Derivative
Security:
Direct (D)

6. Nature of Indirect
Beneficial
Ownership
(Instr. 5)

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	Expiration Date	Amount or Number of Shares	or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	04/21/2010 ⁽²⁾ 04/21/2015	Common Stock 191,599 \$ 13.57	D Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Tolda Thomas J. 135 N. LOS ROBLES AVE. 7TH FLOOR PASADENA, CA 91101	Â	Â	Â Executive Vice President	Â

Signatures

Douglas P. Krause,
Attorney-in-Fact 04/23/2008

__Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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 vests 50% at the end of 4th year and 50% at the end of 5th year.
- (2) The options vest in three annual installments beginning on April 21, 2010.

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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