EAST WEST BANCORP INC

Form 4

December 13, 2006

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB

3235-0287 Number: January 31,

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

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

EAST WEST BANCORP INC

1(b).

BLVD.

Common

Stock

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * LAI MICHAEL W

(Last) (First)

(Middle)

EAST WEST BANK, 4355 GEARY 12/11/2006

Symbol

[EWBC]

(Month/Day/Year)

(Street)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (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

6.

Ownership

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94118

(City) (State) (Zip)

12/11/2006

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Securities (Instr. 3) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Beneficially (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned **Following** Reported (A) Transaction(s)

(Instr. 3 and 4) Price

Code V Amount (D) \$

S 2,400 D

34.755 7,656 (1)

Form: Direct Beneficial (D) or Ownership Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

7. Nature of

Indirect

D

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)

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1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		4.	5. orNumber	6. Date Exerc Expiration Da		7. Title Amou		8. Price of Derivative	9. Nu Deriv
Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Monun Day/Year)	execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/		Under Securi	lying	Security (Instr. 5)	Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

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

Signatures

Douglas P. Krause, Attorney-in-Fact

**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 ranged from \$34.75 to \$34.76.

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.

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