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AMERICAN RIVER BANKSHARES Form 8-K October 20, 2011

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 or 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest reported) October 20, 2011

American River Bankshares (Exact name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

California (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

0-31525 (Commission File Number)

68-0352144 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

3100 Zinfandel Drive, Suite 450, Rancho Cordova, CA (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

95670 (Zip Code)

(916) 851-0123 (Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- o Written communication pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Solicitation material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Page 1 of Page 13 The Index to Exhibits is on Page 3

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Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

Registrant issued a press release October 20, 2011 announcing financial results for the third quarter of 2011. The foregoing description is qualified by reference to the press release attached here to as Exhibit 99.1. The information included in the press release is considered to be "filed" under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

- (c) Exhibits
- (99.1) Financial Results press release dated October 20, 2011

SIGNATURES

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.

AMERICAN RIVER BANKSHARES

October 20, 2011

/s/ Mitchell A. Derenzo Mitchell A. Derenzo Chief Financial Officer (Principal Accounting and Financial Officer)

Page 2 of Page 13

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INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit No. Description Page

99.1 Financial results press release of American River Bankshares dated October 20, 2011 4

Page 3 of Page 13