

CITY NATIONAL CORP
 Form 4
 December 21, 2011

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

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 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 *
GOLDSMITH RUSSELL D

 (Last) (First) (Middle)
400 N. ROXBURY DRIVE

 (Street)
BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210

 (City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
CITY NATIONAL CORP [CYN]

 3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
12/21/2011

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

 (Check all applicable)
 Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
President and CEO

 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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 Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Common Stock | 12/21/2011 | | G | V 4,915 (1) D \$0 | 14,385 | I | As Trustee of the ELM 2006 Charitable Annuity Lead Trust |
| Common Stock | | | | | 262,392 | I | By the Russell Goldsmith Trust |
| Common Stock | | | | | 37,215 | D | |

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| | | | | |
|--------------|--|-----------|---|--|
| Common Stock | | 2,860,000 | I | By the Goldsmith Family Partnership |
| Common Stock | | 304,930 | I | By Maple Pine Limited Partnership |
| Common Stock | | 4,134 | I | As Trustee of the Brian Goldsmith 1985 Trust |
| Common Stock | | 2,912 | I | As Trustee of the Kathryn Goldsmith 1985 Trust |
| Common Stock | | 76,222 | I | By B.A. Quintent, LLC |
| Common Stock | | 8 | I | As Trustee of the West LA Investment Trust No. 1-R |
| Common Stock | | 2,809 | I | By CNC Profit Sharing Plan ⁽²⁾ |
| Common Stock | | 7,500 | I | By MKB Co. Ltd. ⁽³⁾ |

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

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(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 | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|

Disposed
of (D)
(Instr. 3,
4, and 5)

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 |
| GOLDSMITH RUSSELL D 400 N. ROXBURY DRIVE BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210 | X | X | President and CEO | |

Signatures

Russell
Goldsmith 12/21/2011

**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) Gift of shares made to Goldsmith Family Foundation.
- (2) Shares held in the reporting person's City National Corporation Profit Sharing Plan as of November 30, 2011.
- (3) The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities, and this report shall not be deemed an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of the securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

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.