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Ameris Bancorp Form 8-K January 11, 2013

# 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** 

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): January 10, 2013

## **Ameris Bancorp**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Georgia (State or Other Jurisdiction 001-13901 (Commission 58-1456434 (IRS Employer

of Incorporation) File Number) Identification No.)

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31768

(Zip Code)

310 First Street, S.E., Moultrie, Georgia (Address of Principal Executive Offices) Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (229) 890-1111

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

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. below):

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

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Item 5.02. <u>Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.</u>

On January 10, 2013, Leo J. Hill was appointed as a director of Ameris Bancorp (the Company) to fill a vacancy on the Company s Board of Directors. Mr. Hill will receive the standard compensation paid to members of the Company s Board of Directors. There are no understandings or arrangements between Mr. Hill and any other person pursuant to which he was selected as a director.

Mr. Hill currently serves as lead independent director for several Transamerica mutual funds and is the owner of Advisor Network Solutions, LLC.

#### **SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Company has duly caused this Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

AMERIS BANCORP

By: /s/ Edwin W. Hortman, Jr. Edwin W. Hortman, Jr. President and Chief Executive Officer

Dated: January 11, 2013