

VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP  
Form 8-K  
October 27, 2008

**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): **October 24, 2008**

**VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

**New Jersey**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction)

**1-11277**  
(Commission File Number)

**22-2477875**  
(I.R.S. Employer

of Incorporation)

Identification Number)

**1455 Valley Road, Wayne, New Jersey**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**07470**  
**(973) 305-8800**

**07470**  
(Zip Code)

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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):

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- .. 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))

**Item 8.01. Other Events.**

On October 24, 2008 Valley National Bancorp ( Valley ) was advised by the U.S. Department of Treasury (the Department ) that Valley s application under the Department s TARP Capital Purchase Program (the Program ) was approved. Valley had filed an application with the Department under the Program for the sale by Valley and purchase by the Department of \$330 million of Valley s senior preferred stock.

A copy of Valley s press release announcing its approval under the Program is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

**(d) Exhibit**

**No. Description**

99 Press Release of Valley National Bancorp, dated October 24, 2008.

**SIGNATURE**

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.

Dated: October 27, 2008

**VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP**

By: /s/ Alan D. Eskow  
Alan D. Eskow

Executive Vice President and

Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial Officer)

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

**No. Description**

99 Press Release of Valley National Bancorp, dated October 24, 2008.