

VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP
Form 8-K
March 07, 2008

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) March 5, 2008

VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

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

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

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

Identification Number)

1455 Valley Road, Wayne, New Jersey

07470

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(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (973) 305-8800

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))

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE REPORT

Item 4.01 Changes in Registrant's Certifying Accountant

Effective March 5, 2008, Valley National Bancorp (the Company), pursuant to the approval of the Company's Audit and Risk Committee, dismissed Ernst & Young LLP (E&Y) as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm and engaged KPMG LLP (KPMG) as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm.

The reports of E&Y on the Company's financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2006 and December 31, 2007 do not contain an adverse opinion or a disclaimer of opinion and are not qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope or accounting principles.

During the years ended December 31, 2006 and December 31, 2007 and through March 5, 2008, there were no disagreements with E&Y on any matters of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure, or auditing scope or procedure, which disagreements, if not resolved to E&Y's satisfaction, would have caused E&Y to make reference to the subject matter of the disagreement in connection with its audit report on the Company's financial statements for such year, and there were no reportable events as defined in Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K.

During the years ended December 31, 2006 and December 31, 2007 and through March 5, 2008, the Company did not consult with KPMG regarding any of the matters or events set forth in Item 304(a)(2)(i) and (ii) of Regulation S-K.

The Company requested E&Y to furnish a letter addressed to the Securities and Exchange Commission stating whether it agrees with the above statements. A copy of the letter is filed as Exhibit 16 to this Form 8-K.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits

(c) *Exhibits.*

16 Letter of Ernst & Young LLP regarding change in certifying accountant

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: March 7, 2008

VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP

By: /s/ Alan D. Eskow
Alan D. Eskow
Executive Vice President,
Chief Financial Officer and Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description
16	Letter of Ernst & Young LLP regarding change in certifying accountant