
**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): February 28, 2018

HANMI FINANCIAL CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

000-30421
(Commission File Number)

95-4788120
(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

3660 Wilshire Boulevard, PH-A, Los Angeles, California 90010
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(213) 382-2200
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable
(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:

- 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))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR §230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2). Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

(d) Election of Directors

On February 28, 2018, Hanmi Financial Corporation (the “Company”), a Delaware corporation and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Hanmi Bank (the “Bank”), announced that the Boards of Directors of the Company and Bank had appointed Mr. Scott R. Diehl to the Board of Directors of Company and Bank (the “Boards”), effective February 28, 2018.

Mr. Diehl is a 34 year veteran of the banking and financial industry, having spent his entire career at Wells Fargo Capital Finance and its predecessor corporation, Foothill Capital Corporation. Mr. Diehl brings extensive experience across a broad range of risk and lending activities. Prior to his retirement in July 2017, Mr. Diehl was a Group Head overseeing the Factoring, Receivable Securitization and Supply Chain Finance lending units. Prior to this role, he was the Head of the Industries Group and oversaw the Lender Finance, Technology Finance, Healthcare Finance and Supply Chain Finance business units. Mr. Diehl also served in various other leadership positions related to asset based lending and commercial finance for Wells Fargo Capital Finance and Foothill Capital Corporation. Mr. Diehl earned his B.A. in History from Brown University.

Upon his appointment to the Board, Mr. Diehl became entitled to the Company’s customary non-employee director compensation. Mr. Diehl was appointed to the Risk, Compliance and Planning Committee of the Company Board, as well as the Loan and Credit Policy Committee and Asset Liability Committee of the Bank.

There are no arrangements or understandings between Mr. Diehl and any other persons pursuant to which he was selected as a director. There are no family relationships between Mr. Diehl and any director, executive officer or any person nominated or chosen by the Company to become a director or executive officer. No information is required to be disclosed with respect to Mr. Diehl pursuant to Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K.

A copy of the Company’s press release announcing Mr. Diehl’s appointment is included as Exhibit 99.1 to this report and incorporated herein.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

- (a) Financial Statements of Businesses Acquired. Not applicable.
 - (b) Pro Forma Financial Information. Not applicable.
 - (c) Shell Company Transactions. Not applicable.
 - (d) Exhibits Description
 - [99.1](#) Press release issued by Hanmi Financial Corporation dated March 6, 2018
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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.

HANMI FINANCIAL CORPORATION

Date: March 6, 2018

By: /s/ C. G. Kum
C. G. Kum
President and Chief Executive Officer

Hanmi Names Scott Diehl to its Board of Directors

LOS ANGELES, March 06, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- **Hanmi Financial Corporation** (NASDAQ:HAFC) (“Hanmi”), the holding company for **Hanmi Bank** (the “Bank”), today announced that Scott R. Diehl was appointed to its Board of Directors, effective February 28, 2018.

“I am honored to welcome Scott Diehl to our Board of Directors,” said Hanmi’s Chairman, Joseph K. Rho. “Scott has extensive experience across a wide array of commercial lending and risk management activities and I am confident he will bring a valuable perspective to our organization. Speaking on behalf of my colleagues on the Board, we look forward to drawing on Scott’s expertise as we execute our mission to drive safe and sound growth across the enterprise.”

Mr. Diehl is a 34 year veteran of the banking and financial industry, having spent his entire career at Wells Fargo Capital Finance and its predecessor corporation, Foothill Capital Corporation. Prior to his retirement in July 2017, Mr. Diehl was a Group Head overseeing the Factoring, Receivable Securitization and Supply Chain Finance lending units. Prior to this role, he was the Head of the Industries Group and oversaw the Lender Finance, Technology Finance, Healthcare Finance and Supply Chain Finance business units. Mr. Diehl also served in various other leadership positions related to asset based lending and commercial finance for Wells Fargo Capital Finance and Foothill Capital Corporation. Mr. Diehl earned his B.A. in History from Brown University.

About Hanmi Financial Corporation

Headquartered in Los Angeles, California, Hanmi Financial Corporation owns Hanmi Bank, which serves multi-ethnic communities through its network of 40 full-service branches and 8 loan production offices in California, Texas, Illinois, Virginia, New Jersey, New York, Colorado, Washington and Georgia. Hanmi Bank specializes in real estate, commercial, SBA and trade finance lending to small and middle market businesses. Additional information is available at www.hanmi.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements, which are included in accordance with the “safe harbor” provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “could,” “expects,” “plans,” “intends,” “anticipates,” “believes,” “estimates,” “predicts,” “potential,” or “continue,” or the negative of such terms and other comparable terminology. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements. All statements other than statements of historical fact are “forward-looking statements” for purposes of federal and state securities laws, including, but not limited to, statements about anticipated future operating and financial performance, financial position and liquidity, business strategies, regulatory and competitive outlook, investment and expenditure plans, capital and financing needs and availability, plans and objectives of management for future operations, developments regarding our capital plans, strategic alternatives for a possible business combination, merger or sale transaction, and other similar forecasts and statements of expectation and statements of assumption underlying any of the foregoing. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements to differ from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statement. These factors include the following: failure to maintain adequate levels of capital and liquidity to support our operations; the effect of potential future supervisory action against us or Hanmi Bank; general economic and business conditions internationally, nationally and in those areas in which we operate; volatility and deterioration in the credit and equity markets; changes in consumer spending, borrowing and savings habits; availability of capital from private and government sources; demographic changes; competition for loans and deposits and failure to attract or retain loans and deposits; fluctuations in interest rates and a decline in the level of our interest rate spread; risks of natural disasters related to our real estate portfolio; risks associated with Small Business Administration loans; failure to attract or retain key employees; changes in governmental regulation, including, but not limited to, any increase in FDIC insurance premiums; ability of Hanmi Bank to make distributions to Hanmi Financial Corporation, which is restricted by certain factors, including Hanmi Bank’s retained earnings, net income, prior distributions made, and certain other financial tests; ability to identify a suitable strategic partner or to consummate a strategic transaction; adequacy of our allowance for loan and lease losses; credit quality and the effect of credit quality on our provision for loan and lease losses and allowance for loan and lease losses; changes in the financial performance and/or condition of our borrowers and the ability of our borrowers to perform under the terms of their loans and other terms of credit agreements; our ability to control expenses; and changes in securities markets. In addition, we set forth certain risks in our reports filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, including, Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and Current Reports on Form 8-K that we will file hereafter, which could cause actual results to differ from those projected. We undertake no obligation to update such forward-looking statements except as required by law.

Investor Contacts:

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