Mueller Bernadette Form 3 December 21, 2009

## FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

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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

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person \* Statement VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP [VLY] A Mueller Bernadette (Month/Day/Year) 12/15/2009 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 1455 VALLEY ROAD (Check all applicable) (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) 10% Owner Director \_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting \_X\_\_ Officer Other Person WAYNE, NJÂ 07470 (give title below) (specify below) Form filed by More than One Executive VP, Retail Banking Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 2. Amount of Securities 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) D Â Common Stock 30,682 Common Stock 102 I Shares held by daughter Common Stock (401k Plan) 1,945 D Â Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

currently valid OMB control number.

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Date Exercisable and	3. Title and Amount of	4.	5.	6. Nature of Indirect
(Instr. 4)	Expiration Date	Securities Underlying	Conversion	Ownership	Beneficial
	(Month/Day/Year)	Derivative Security	or Exercise	Form of	Ownership

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	(Instr. 4) Title	Amount or Number of	Price of Derivative Security	Derivative Security: Direct (D)	(Instr. 5)
	Exercisable	Date		Shares		or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Stock Options	11/15/2001	11/15/2010	Common Stock	4,616	\$ 15.5041	D	Â
Stock Options	11/07/2002	11/07/2011	Common Stock	3,519	\$ 17.4454	D	Â
Stock Options	11/18/2003	11/18/2012	Common Stock	3,167	\$ 18.7226	D	Â
Stock Options	11/17/2004	11/17/2013	Common Stock	3,016	\$ 21.8257	D	Â
Stock Options	11/16/2005	11/16/2014	Common Stock	3,191	\$ 21.9139	D	Â
Stock Options	11/14/2006	11/14/2015	Common Stock	3,647	\$ 20.2933	D	Â
Stock Options	11/13/2007	11/13/2016	Common Stock	3,473	\$ 22.2121	D	Â
Stock Options	11/14/2008	11/14/2017	Common Stock	3,308	\$ 17.2831	D	Â
Stock Options	11/17/2009	11/17/2018	Common Stock	2,100	\$ 16.4857	D	Â

## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
1 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Mueller Bernadette 1455 VALLEY ROAD WAYNE, NJ 07470	Â	Â	Executive VP, Retail Banking	Â

## **Signatures**

/s/ BERNADETT MUELLER 12/21/2009

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

## **Explanation of Responses:**

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.

Reporting Owners 2

<sup>\*</sup> If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).

<sup>\*\*</sup> Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).