

FIRST INTERSTATE BANCSYSTEM INC  
Form 425  
April 26, 2018

**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): April 25, 2018**

**FIRST INTERSTATE BANCSYSTEM, INC.**

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

**Montana**  
**(State or Other Jurisdiction**

**of Incorporation)**

**401 North 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Billings, MT**

**001-34653**  
**(Commission File No.)**

**81-0331430**  
**(I.R.S. Employer**

**Identification No.)**

**59116**

(Address of Principal Executive  
Offices)

(Zip Code)

(406) 255-5390

(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 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

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 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement**

On April 25, 2018, First Interstate BancSystem, Inc. ( First Interstate ) and Northwest Bancorporation, Inc. ( Northwest ) entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the Merger Agreement ) pursuant to which Northwest will merge with and into First Interstate (the Merger ). Following the Merger, Inland Northwest Bank will merge with and into First Interstate Bank.

Under the terms of the Merger Agreement, each outstanding share of Northwest common stock will be converted into the right to receive 0.516 shares of First Interstate Class A common stock.

The Merger Agreement includes customary representations and warranties made by First Interstate and Northwest, each with respect to its and its subsidiaries' businesses. Each party has also agreed to customary covenants, including, among others, covenants relating to the conduct of its business during the interim period between the execution of the Merger Agreement and the consummation of the Merger.

The Merger has been unanimously approved by the Boards of Directors of each of First Interstate and Northwest and is expected to close late in the third quarter or early in the fourth quarter of 2018.

The Merger is also subject to approval by Northwest's stockholders as well as regulatory approvals and other customary closing conditions. The Merger Agreement provides certain termination rights for both First Interstate and Northwest and further provides that a termination fee of \$5,076,204 will be payable by Northwest to First Interstate upon termination of the Merger Agreement under certain circumstances.

In connection with entering into the Merger Agreement, the directors and executive officers of Northwest have each entered into a voting agreement (collectively, the Voting Agreements ). The Voting Agreements generally require that the stockholder party thereto vote all of his or her shares of Northwest common stock in favor of the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated therein. The Voting Agreements will remain in effect until the earlier of (a) the final adjournment of the stockholder meeting held by Northwest to vote on the approval and adoption of the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated therein or (b) the termination of the Merger Agreement.

The foregoing summaries of the Merger Agreement and the Voting Agreement are qualified in their entirety by reference to the complete text of such documents, which are filed as Exhibit 2.1 and Exhibit A to Exhibit 2.1, respectively, to this Current Report on Form 8-K and which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. The representations, warranties and covenants of each party set forth in the Merger Agreement have been made only for purposes of, and were and are solely for the benefit of the parties to, the Merger Agreement, may be subject to limitations agreed upon by the contracting parties, including being qualified by confidential disclosures made for the purposes of allocating contractual risk between the parties to the Merger Agreement instead of establishing these matters as facts, and may be subject to standards of materiality applicable to the contracting parties that differ from those applicable to investors.

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Accordingly, the representations and warranties may not describe the actual state of affairs at the date they were made or at any other time, and investors should not rely on them as statements of fact. In addition, such representations and warranties (1) will not survive consummation of the Merger, unless otherwise specified therein, and (2) were made only as of the date of the Merger Agreement or such other date as is specified in the Merger Agreement. Moreover, information concerning the subject matter of the representations and warranties may change after the date of the Merger Agreement, which subsequent information may or may not be fully reflected in the parties' public disclosures. Accordingly, the Merger Agreement is included with this filing only to provide investors with information regarding the terms of the Merger Agreement, and not to provide investors with other factual information regarding First Interstate or Northwest, their respective affiliates or their respective businesses. The Merger Agreement should not be read alone, but should instead be read in conjunction with the other information regarding First Interstate, Northwest, their respective affiliates or their respective businesses, that will be contained in, or incorporated by reference into, the Registration Statement on Form S-4 that will include a proxy statement of Northwest and a prospectus of First Interstate, as well as in the Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and other filings that First Interstate makes with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC").

#### **Item 8.01 Other Events**

On April 25, 2018, First Interstate released a presentation to investors containing additional information regarding the Merger. A copy of the presentation is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

On April 25, 2018, First Interstate and Northwest issued a joint press release announcing the execution of the Merger Agreement. A copy of the joint press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.2.

#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This Current Report on Form 8-K contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements about (1) the benefits of the merger between First Interstate and Northwest, including anticipated future results, cost savings and accretion to reported earnings that may be realized from the merger; (2) First Interstate and Northwest's plans, objectives, expectations and intentions and other statements contained in this presentation that are not historical facts; and (3) other statements identified by words such as "expects," "anticipates," "intends," "plans," "believes," "seeks," "estimates," or other words of similar meaning.

Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those in such statements. The following factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from the anticipated results expressed in the forward-looking statements: the businesses of First Interstate and Northwest may not be combined successfully, or such combination may take longer than expected; the cost savings from the

Merger may not be fully realized or may take longer than expected; operating costs, customer loss and business disruption following the Merger may be greater than expected; governmental approvals of the Merger may not be obtained, or adverse regulatory conditions may be imposed in connection with governmental approvals of the Merger or otherwise; the stockholders of Northwest may fail to approve the Merger; credit and interest rate risks associated with First Interstate's and Northwest's respective businesses; and difficulties associated with achieving expected future financial results. Additional factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements are discussed in First Interstate's reports (such as the Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K) filed with the SEC and available at the SEC's Internet website ([www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov)). All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements concerning the proposed transaction or other matters attributable to First Interstate or Northwest or any person acting on their behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements above. Except as required by law, First Interstate and Northwest do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect circumstances or events that occur after the date the forward-looking statement is made.

### **Additional Information and Where to Find It**

This communication is being made in respect of the proposed Merger. This communication does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities or a solicitation of any vote or approval.

In connection with the proposed transaction, First Interstate intends to file a registration statement on Form S-4 with the SEC, which will include a proxy statement of Northwest and a prospectus of First Interstate, and First Interstate and Northwest will file other documents regarding the proposed transaction with the SEC. **Before making any voting or investment decision, investors and security holders of Northwest are urged to carefully read the entire registration statement and proxy statement/prospectus, when they become available, as well as any amendments or supplements to these documents, because they will contain important information about the proposed transaction.** The documents filed by First Interstate with the SEC may be obtained free of charge at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). In addition, the documents filed by First Interstate may be obtained free of charge at its website at [www.fibk.com](http://www.fibk.com) or by contacting First Interstate BancSystem, Inc., 401 North 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Billings, Montana 59116, Attention: Margie Morse, Investor Relations Officer, telephone (406) 255-5023.

First Interstate and Northwest and certain of their directors and executive officers may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies of Northwest's shareholders in connection with the proposed transaction. Information about the directors and executive officers of First Interstate and their ownership of First Interstate common stock is set forth in the proxy statement for First Interstate's 2018 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, as filed with the SEC on Schedule 14A on March 16, 2018. Additional information regarding the interests of those participants and other persons who may be deemed participants in the transaction may be obtained by reading the proxy statement/prospectus regarding the proposed Merger when it becomes available. Free copies of this document may be obtained as described in the preceding paragraph.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits**

al Statements of Businesses Acquired. Not applicable.

ma Financial Information. Not applicable.

ompany Transactions. Not applicable.

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Description

Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of April 25, 2018 by and between First Interstate BancSystem, Inc. Northwest Bancorporati

Investor Presentation dated April 25, 2018.

Joint Press Release dated April 25, 2018.

\* Schedules and exhibits have been omitted pursuant to Item 601(b)(2) of Regulation S-K.

**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.

**FIRST INTERSTATE BANCSYSTEM, INC.**

DATE: April 25, 2018

By: /s/ Kevin P. Riley  
Kevin P. Riley

President and Chief Executive Officer