Williford Vernon Wayne Form 3 December 21, 2009

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 Ameris Bancorp [ABCB] A Williford Vernon Wayne (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) P.O. BOX 3668 (Check all applicable) (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) 10% Owner _X__ Director _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Officer Other Person MOULTRIE, GAÂ 31776 (give title below) (specify below) Form filed by More than One 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 (Instr. 4) Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) D Â Common 29,855.6845 Common 9.263 I Spouse 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.

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

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Date Expiration Title Amount or Security Direct (D)

Exercisable Date Number of or Indirect
Shares (I)

(Instr. 5)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Williford Vernon Wayne

P.O. BOX 3668 Â X Â Â Â

MOULTRIE, GAÂ 31776

Signatures

Vernon Wayne Williford, by Cara P. Dean, Attorney-In-Fact

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

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

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

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.

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