
Section 1: S-8

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 3, 2019

Registration No. 333-

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

**FORM S-8
REGISTRATION STATEMENT**
Under
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New Jersey
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

22-2477875
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

One Penn Plaza, Suite 2930
New York, New York 10119
(Address, including zip code of registrant's principal executive offices)

ORITANI FINANCIAL CORP. 2007 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN

ORITANI FINANCIAL CORP. 2011 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN
(Full title of the Plans)

Ronald H. Janis
Senior Executive Vice President & General Counsel
Valley National Bancorp
One Penn Plaza, Suite 2930
New York, New York 10119
(973) 305-8800
(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

With a Copy to:
Michael T. Rave, Esq.
Day Pitney LLP
One Jefferson Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054
(973) 966-8123

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

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 standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of Securities to be Registered | Amount to be Registered⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ | Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share⁽³⁾ | Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price⁽³⁾ | Amount of Registration Fee |
|---|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock, no par value | 3,184,572 ⁽⁴⁾ | \$11.81 | \$37,609,795.32 | \$4,881.76 |

- (1) Pursuant to the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of June 25, 2019 (the “Merger Agreement”), between Valley National Bancorp (“Valley” or the “Company”) and Oritani Financial Corp. (“Oritani”), Valley assumed all the outstanding options to purchase shares of common stock of Oritani granted under the Oritani Financial Corp. 2007 Equity Incentive Plan (the “2007 Plan”) and the Oritani Financial Corp. 2011 Equity Incentive Plan (the “2011 Plan” and together with the 2007 Plan, the “Plans”), in each case subject to their continued vesting schedules and conditions. The assumed stock options were converted into the right to acquire shares of Valley common stock, with appropriate adjustments to the number of shares into which the assumed options are exercisable and the exercise price of such options, in accordance with the terms of the Merger Agreement.
- (2) Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”) this Registration Statement also covers an indeterminate number of shares of common stock that may be issuable pursuant to anti-dilution provisions contained in the Plans.
- (3) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(h) under the Securities Act. The offering price per share and aggregate offering price are based on the average of the high and low prices of the Company’s common stock as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market on November 26, 2019.
- (4) Represents shares of Valley common stock issuable upon exercise of assumed stock options granted under the Plans.

PART I

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

Item 1. Plan Information.*

Not filed with this Registration Statement.

Item 2. Registrant Information and Employee Plan Annual Information.*

Not filed with this Registration Statement.

* All information required by Part I to be contained in the Section 10(a) prospectus is omitted from this Registration Statement in accordance with Rule 428 under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Note to Part I of Form S-8.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Documents Incorporated By Reference.

The following documents filed by Valley National Bancorp (the "Company") with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement:

1. The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018.
2. The Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2019, June 30, 2019 and September 30, 2019.
3. The Company's Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on January 24, 2019, January 30, 2019, January 31, 2019, February 5, 2019, February 13, 2019, March 27, 2019, April 18, 2019, April 25, 2019, June 26, 2019 (2 filings), July 17, 2019, July 25, 2019, August 26, 2019, October 24, 2019, October 25, 2019, November 18, 2019 and December 2, 2019.
4. The description of the Company's common stock contained in the Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed by the Company pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

Information in Current Reports on Form 8-K furnished to the Commission, including under Item 2.02 or 7.01 of Form 8-K, prior, on or subsequent to the date hereof is not and will not be incorporated herein by reference.

In addition, all documents hereafter filed by the Company pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, are hereby incorporated herein by reference and are a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents. Any statement contained herein or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Not applicable.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Indemnification. Article VI of the Company's certificate of incorporation provides that the corporation shall indemnify its present and former officers, directors, employees, and agents and persons serving at its request against expenses, including attorney's fees, judgments, fines or amounts paid in settlement, incurred in connection with any pending or threatened action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, to the full extent permitted by the New Jersey Business Corporation Act. The Article also provides that such indemnification shall not exclude any other rights to indemnification to which a person may otherwise be entitled, and authorizes the corporation to purchase insurance on behalf of any of the persons enumerated against any liability whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him under the provisions of Article VI.

The New Jersey Business Corporation Act empowers a corporation to indemnify a corporate agent against his expenses and liabilities incurred in connection with any proceeding (other than a derivative lawsuit) involving the corporate agent by reason of his being or having been a corporate agent if (a) the agent acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and (b) with respect to any criminal proceeding, the corporate agent had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. For purposes of the Act, the term "corporate agent" includes any present or former director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, and a person serving as a "corporate agent" at the request of the corporation for any other enterprise.

With respect to any derivative action, the corporation is empowered to indemnify a corporate agent against his expenses (but not his liabilities) incurred in connection with any proceeding involving the corporate agent by reason of his being or having been a corporate agent if the agent acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation. However, only the New Jersey Superior Court or the court in which the proceeding was brought can empower a corporation to indemnify a corporate agent against expenses with respect to any claim, issue or matter as to which the agent was adjudged liable to the corporation.

The corporation may indemnify a corporate agent in a specific case if a determination is made by any of the following that the applicable standard of conduct was met: (i) the board of directors, or a committee thereof, acting by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of disinterested directors; (ii) by independent legal counsel, if there is not a quorum of disinterested directors or if the disinterested quorum empowers counsel to make the determination; or (iii) by the shareholders.

A corporate agent is entitled to mandatory indemnification to the extent that the agent is successful on the merits or otherwise in any proceeding, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter in the proceeding. If a corporation fails or refuses to indemnify a corporate agent, whether the indemnification is permissive or mandatory, the agent may apply to a court to grant him the requested indemnification. In advance of the final disposition of a proceeding, the corporation may pay an agent's expenses if the agent agrees to repay the expenses unless it is ultimately determined he is entitled to indemnification.

Exculpation. Article VII of the Company's certificate of incorporation provides:

A director or officer of the Corporation shall not be personally liable to the Corporation or its shareholders for damages for breach of any duty owed to the Corporation or its shareholders, except that this provision shall not relieve a director or officer from liability for any breach of duty based upon an act or omission (i) in breach of such person's duty of loyalty to the Corporation or its shareholders, (ii) not in good faith or involving a knowing violation of law, or (iii) resulting in receipt by such person of an improper personal benefit. If the New Jersey Business Corporation Act is amended after approval by the shareholders of this provision to authorize corporate action further eliminating or limiting the personal liability of directors or officers, then the liability of a director and/or officer of the Corporation shall be eliminated or limited to the fullest extent permitted by the New Jersey Business Corporation Act as so amended.

Any repeal or modification of the foregoing paragraph by the shareholders of the Corporation or otherwise shall not adversely affect any right or protection of a director or officer of the Corporation existing at the time of such repeal or modification.

The New Jersey Business Corporation Act, as it affects exculpation, has not been changed since the adoption of this provision by the Company in 1987.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

5.1 [Opinion of Day Pitney LLP \(filed herewith\)](#)

23.1 [Consent of KPMG LLP \(filed herewith\)](#)

23.2 [Consent of Day Pitney LLP \(included in Exhibit 5.1 hereto\)](#)

24.1 [Power of Attorney \(included on the signature page hereto\)](#)

99.1 [Oritani Financial Corp. 2007 Equity Incentive Plan *](#)

99.2 [Oritani Financial Corp. 2011 Equity Incentive Plan **](#)

* Incorporated by reference to Appendix A of the proxy statement for the Special Meeting of Oritani Stockholders (Commission File No. 001-33223) filed by Oritani under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, on March 20, 2008.

** Incorporated by reference to Appendix A of the proxy statement for the Special Meeting of Oritani Stockholders (Commission File No. 001-34786) filed by Oritani under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, on June 27, 2011.

Item 9. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement; provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of New York, State of New York, on the 2nd day of December, 2019.

VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP

By: /s/ Ronald H. Janis

Ronald H. Janis

Senior Executive Vice President & General Counsel

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints Ronald H. Janis, Ira Robbins and Mitchell L. Crandell as attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, to sign on his or her behalf, individually and in any and all capacities, including the capacities stated below, any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement and any registration statements filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 462(b) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, relating thereto and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting to said attorneys-in-fact and agents, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated:

| <u>Signature</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|--|---|------------------|
| <u>/s/ Ira Robbins</u> Ira Robbins | Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer | December 2, 2019 |
| <u>/s/ Michael D. Hagedorn</u> Michael D. Hagedorn | Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer) | December 2, 2019 |
| <u>/s/ Mitchell L. Crandell</u> Mitchell L. Crandell | Executive Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer) | December 2, 2019 |
| <u>/s/ Andrew B. Abramson</u> Andrew B. Abramson | Director | December 2, 2019 |
| <u>/s/ Peter J. Baum</u> Peter J. Baum | Director | December 2, 2019 |
| <u>/s/ Eric P. Edelstein</u> Eric P. Edelstein | Director | December 2, 2019 |
| <u>/s/ Graham O. Jones</u> Graham O. Jones | Director | December 2, 2019 |

| <u>Signature</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|--|--------------|------------------|
| _____ /s/ Michael L. LaRusso Michael L. LaRusso | Director | December 2, 2019 |
| _____ /s/ Marc J. Lenner Marc J. Lenner | Director | December 2, 2019 |
| _____ /s/ Gerald H. Lipkin Gerald H. Lipkin | Director | December 2, 2019 |
| _____ Kevin J. Lynch | Director | |
| _____ /s/ Suresh L. Sani Suresh L. Sani | Director | December 2, 2019 |
| _____ /s/ Melissa (Lisa) Schultz Melissa (Lisa) Schultz | Director | December 2, 2019 |
| _____ /s/ Jennifer W. Steans Jennifer W. Steans | Director | December 2, 2019 |
| _____ /s/ Jeffrey S. Wilks Jeffrey S. Wilks | Director | December 2, 2019 |

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Section 2: EX-5.1 (EXHIBIT 5.1)

Exhibit 5.1



BOSTON CONNECTICUT FLORIDA NEW JERSEY NEW YORK WASHINGTON, D.C.

DAY PITNEY LLP
Attorneys at Law

One Jefferson Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054
T: (973) 966 6300 F: (973) 966 1015
info@daypitney.com

December 2, 2019

Valley National Bancorp
One Penn Plaza, Suite 2930
New York, New York 10119

Re: Valley National Bancorp
Registration of 3,184,572 Shares of Common Stock

We refer to the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") filed by Valley National Bancorp, a New Jersey corporation (the "Company") relating to the registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"), of 3,184,572 shares of common stock of the Company, no par value (the "Shares"), issuable pursuant to outstanding equity awards assumed by the Company pursuant to the terms of that certain Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of June 25, 2019 (the "Merger Agreement"), between the Company and Oritani Financial Corp.

("Oritani"). Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, the Company assumed such outstanding equity awards of Oritani under the Oritani Financial Corp. 2007 Equity Incentive Plan (the "2007 Plan") and the Oritani Financial Corp. 2011 Equity Incentive Plan (the "2011 Plan" and together with the 2007 Plan, the "Plans"), subject to appropriate adjustments. This opinion is being furnished in connection with the requirements of Item 601(b)(5) of Regulation S-K under the Act, and no opinion is expressed herein as to any matter pertaining to the contents of the Registration Statement or related prospectus, other than as expressly stated herein with respect to the issue of the Shares.

We have examined originals, or copies certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of the Plans and such corporate records, documents, agreements, instruments and certificates of public officials of the State of New Jersey and of officers of the Company as we have deemed necessary or appropriate in order to express the opinion hereinafter set forth.

In our examination of such documents and records, we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the legal capacity of natural persons and conformity with the originals of all documents submitted to us as copies.

Based upon the foregoing, and subject to the qualifications and limitations set forth herein, we are of the opinion that the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable when (i) the Registration Statement shall have become effective under the Act; (ii) the Shares have been duly issued as contemplated by the Registration Statement (including the Prospectuses which are not filed herewith) and the Plans; and (iii) either a certificate representing such Shares shall have been duly executed, countersigned and registered and duly delivered to the purchaser thereof upon payment of the agreed consideration therefor, if any, or if any such Shares are to be issued in uncertificated form, the Company's books shall reflect the issuance of such Shares to the purchaser thereof, upon payment of the agreed consideration therefor, if any, in accordance with the terms of the Plans.

The foregoing opinion is limited to the laws of the State of New Jersey. We express no opinion as to the effect of the laws of any other jurisdiction, including, without limitation, the federal laws of the United States of America or any state securities or blue sky laws.

We hereby consent to the use of this opinion letter as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. In giving such consent, we do not hereby concede that we are within the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Act, or the Rules and Regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission thereunder.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Day Pitney LLP

Day Pitney LLP

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Section 3: EX-23.1 (EXHIBIT 23.1)

Exhibit 23.1

Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors
Valley National Bancorp:

We consent to the use of our reports dated February 28, 2019, with respect to (i) the consolidated statements of financial condition of Valley National Bancorp as of December 31, 2018 and 2017 and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, changes in shareholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2018 and (ii) the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018, which reports appear in the December 31, 2018 annual report on Form 10-K of Valley National Bancorp, incorporated herein by reference in the Registration Statement on Form S-8.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Short Hills, New Jersey
December 2, 2019

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