EAST WEST BANCORP INC Form 8-K January 27, 2016

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): January 27, 2016

### EAST WEST BANCORP, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 000-24939 95-4703316
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) (Commission File Number) (IRS Employer Identification No.)

135 N Los Robles Ave., 7th Floor, Pasadena, California 91101 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

(626) 768-6000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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:

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o 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))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

East West Bancorp, Inc. Current Report of Form 8-K

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers

On January 27, 2016, Julia Gouw, the President and Chief Operating Officer of both East West Bancorp, Inc. (the "Company") and its wholly owned subsidiary, East West Bank ("the Bank"), announced her retirement as President and Chief Operating Officer effective March 31, 2016. Ms. Gouw will also retire from the Board of Directors of the Company and the Bank effective March 31, 2016.

A copy of the news release announcing Ms. Gouw's retirement as President and Chief Operating Officer is included in this report and is incorporated by reference into this Item 5.02.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits.

99.1

News release of East West Bancorp, Inc. dated January 27, 2016.

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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.

Date: January 27, 2016

EAST WEST BANCORP, INC.

By: /s/ Irene H. Oh Irene H. Oh

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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# **EXHIBIT INDEX**

Exhibit Description

99.1 News release of East West Bancorp, Inc. dated January 27, 2016.

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