

Fukumura Karen
 Form 3
 March 12, 2009

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

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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
 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *		2. Date of Event Requiring Statement	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Â Fukumura Karen		(Month/Day/Year)	EAST WEST BANCORP INC [EWBC]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	03/11/2009	
135 N. LOS ROBLES AVE. 7TH FLOOR			4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
(Street)			(Check all applicable)	
PASADENA,Â CAÂ 91101			<input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person
			(give title below) (specify below)	<input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
			Executive Vice President	

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	1,771	D	Â
Restricted Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	24,351	D	Â

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of	5. Ownership Form of Derivative	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Derivative Security	Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	04/07/2010 ⁽²⁾	04/07/2015	Common Stock	83,011	\$ 18.07	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Fukumura Karen 135 N. LOS ROBLES AVE. 7TH FLOOR PASADENA, CA 91101	Â	Â	Â Executive Vice President	Â

Signatures

Douglas P. Krause,
Attorney-in-Fact 03/11/2009

**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).
- (1) Restricted Stock vests 14.2% in year 2012, 50% in year 2013 and 35.8% in year 2014.
 - (2) The options vest in three annual installments beginning on April 7, 2010.

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.