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(Former name or former address, if changed since last report) Not applicable

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 (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- .. 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))

Item 5.02 DEPARTURE OF DIRECTORS OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS; ELECTION OF DIRECTORS;
APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

On December 16, 2013, Sierra Bancorp issued a press release announcing the promotion of Kevin J. McPhaill to President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Bank of the Sierra (the “Bank”), effective January 1, 2014. Mr. McPhaill is 41 years old, and for the past five years has been an executive vice president and Chief Banking Officer for Sierra Bancorp and the Bank. James C. Holly, the current President and Chief Executive Officer, will continue in his role as CEO of the Company and the Bank. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report.

ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit Number Description

99.1 Press Release dated December 16, 2013

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SIERRA BANCORP

By: /s/ *Kenneth R. Taylor*

Kenneth R. Taylor
Executive Vice President &
Chief Financial Officer

Dated: December 16, 2013