

1ST CONSTITUTION BANCORP  
Form 8-K  
December 23, 2008

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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)      December 23, 2008

1ST CONSTITUTION BANCORP  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

New Jersey (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)	000-32891 (Commission File Number)	22-3665653 (IRS Employer Identification Number)
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2650 Route 130 P.O. Box 634, Cranbury, New Jersey (Address of Principal Executive Offices)	08512 (Zip Code)
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Registrant's telephone number, including area code      (609) 655-4500

Not Applicable  
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

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:

- 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 (17CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On December 23, 2008, as part of the U.S. Department of the Treasury (the “Treasury”) Troubled Asset Relief Program (“TARP”) Capital Purchase Program, 1st Constitution Bancorp (the “Company”) entered into a Letter Agreement (“Letter Agreement”) and a Securities Purchase Agreement – Standard Terms attached thereto (“Securities Purchase Agreement”) with the Treasury, pursuant to which the Company agreed to issue and sell, and the Treasury agreed to purchase 12,000 shares (the “Preferred Shares”) of the Company’s Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series B, having a liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share for \$12 million in cash. The Treasury was also issued a ten-year warrant (the “Warrant”) to purchase up to 200,222 shares of the Company’s common stock, no par value (“Common Stock”), at an exercise price of \$8.99 per share.

The transaction closed on December 23, 2008 (the “Closing Date”). The issuance and sale of these securities was a private placement exempt from registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Act”), pursuant to Section 4(2) of the Act.

Cumulative dividends on the Preferred Shares will accrue on the liquidation preference at a rate of 5% per annum for the first five years, and at a rate of 9% per annum thereafter, but will be paid only if, as and when declared by the Company’s Board of Directors. The Preferred Shares have no maturity date and rank senior to the Common Stock with respect to the payment of dividends and distributions and amounts payable upon liquidation, dissolution and winding up of the Company. Subject to the approval of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Preferred Shares are redeemable at the option of the Company at 100% of their liquidation preference plus accrued and unpaid dividends, provided that the Preferred Shares may be redeemed prior to the first dividend payment date falling after the third anniversary of the Closing Date (December 23, 2011) only if (i) the Company has raised aggregate gross proceeds in one or more Qualified Equity Offerings in excess of \$3 million, and (ii) the aggregate redemption price does not exceed the aggregate net proceeds from such Qualified Equity Offerings. “Qualified Equity Offering” is defined as the sale for cash by the Company after the Closing Date of shares of preferred stock or common stock that qualify as Tier I capital of the Company under the capital guidelines of the Company’s federal banking agency. Thus if the Company raised net proceeds from the sale of preferred stock or common stock in a public or private offering, it could redeem all of the Preferred Shares. Furthermore, if the Company redeemed the Preferred Stock and the Treasury still owned the Warrant, the Company could repurchase the Warrant from the Treasury for its fair market value. Unless both the holder and the Company agree otherwise, the exercise of the Warrant will be a net exercise (i.e., the holder does not pay cash but gives up shares with a market value at the time of exercise equal to the exercise price, resulting in a net settlement with significantly fewer than the 200,222 shares of Common Stock being issued).

The Treasury may not transfer a portion or portions of the Warrant with respect to, and/or exercise the Warrant for more than one-half of, the 200,222 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of the Warrant, in the aggregate, until the earlier of (i) the date on which the Company has received aggregate gross proceeds of not less than \$12 million from one or more Qualified Equity Offerings and (ii) December 31, 2009. In the event the Company completes one or more Qualified Equity Offerings on or prior to December 31, 2009 that result in the Company receiving aggregate gross proceeds of not less than \$12 million, the number of the shares of Common Stock underlying the portion of the Warrant then held by the Treasury will be reduced by one-half of the shares of Common Stock originally covered by the Warrant.

The Securities Purchase Agreement, pursuant to which the Preferred Shares and the Warrant were sold, contains limitations on the payment of dividends on the Common Stock and on the Company’s ability to repurchase its Common Stock and repurchase or redeem its trust preferred securities, and subjects the Company to certain of the executive compensation limitations included in the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (the “EESA”). As a condition to the closing of the transaction, each of Messrs. Robert Mangano and Joseph M. Reardon, the Company’s Senior Executive Officers (as defined in the Securities Purchase Agreement) (the “Senior Executive Officers”), (i) executed a waiver (the “Waiver”) voluntarily waiving any claim against the Treasury or the Company for any

changes to such Senior Executive Officer's compensation or benefits that are required to comply with the regulation issued by the Treasury under the TARP Capital Purchase Program and acknowledging that the regulation may require modification of the compensation, bonus, incentive and other benefit plans, arrangements and policies and agreements (including so-called "golden parachute" agreements) (collectively, "Benefit Plans") as they relate to the period the Treasury holds any equity or debt securities of the Company acquired through the TARP Capital Purchase Program; and (ii) entered into a senior executive officer agreement ("Senior Executive Officer Agreement") with the Company amending the Benefit Plans with respect to such Senior Executive Officer as may be necessary, during the period that the Treasury owns any debt or equity securities of the Company acquired pursuant to the Securities Purchase Agreement or the Warrant, to comply with Section 111(b) of the EESA.

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The Securities Purchase Agreement and all related documents may be amended unilaterally by the Treasury to the extent required to comply with any changes in applicable federal statutes after the execution thereof.

Copies of the Letter Agreement (including the Securities Purchase Agreement), the form of Warrant, the Certificate of Amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation establishing the terms of the Preferred Shares, the form of Waiver executed by the Senior Executive Officers, the form of the Senior Executive Officer Agreement executed by the Senior Executive Officers, and the press release announcing the completion of the transactions described above are included as exhibits to this Form 8-K and are incorporated by reference into these Items 1.01, 3.02, 3.03, 5.02 and 5.03. The foregoing is a summary of certain provisions of these documents, is not complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to these documents.

Item 3.02 Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities.

The information set forth under “Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement” is incorporated by reference into this Item 3.02.

Item 3.03 Material Modification to Rights of Security Holders.

The information set forth under “Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement” is incorporated by reference into this Item 3.03.

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

The information set forth under “Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement” is incorporated by reference into this Item 5.02.

Item 5.03 Amendments to Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws; Change in Fiscal Year.

On December 18, 2008, the Company filed with the State of New Jersey a Certificate of Amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation increasing the number of shares constituting the “Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock” from 28,966 to 40,000 and a Certificate of Amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation establishing the terms of the Preferred Shares. Copies of the Certificates of Amendment are included as exhibits to this Form 8-K and are incorporated by reference into this Item 5.03.

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Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

The following exhibits are being filed herewith:

Exhibit No.	Description
3.1	Certificate of Amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation increasing the number of shares constituting the Series A Junior Preferred Stock
3.2	Certificate of Amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation establishing the terms of the Preferred Stock
3.3	Warrant to Purchase up to 200,222 shares of Common Stock
10.1	Letter Agreement, dated December 23, 2008, including Securities Purchase Agreement –Standard Terms incorporated by reference therein, between the Company and the UnitedStates Department of the Treasury
10.2	Form of Waiver, executed by each of Messrs. Robert Mangano and Joseph M. Reardon
10.3	Form of Senior Executive Officer Agreement, executed by each of Messrs. Robert Mangano and Joseph M. Reardon
99.1	Press Release

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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.

1ST CONSTITUTION BANCORP

Date: December 23, 2008

By: /s/ JOSEPH M. REARDON  
Name: Joseph M. Reardon  
Title: Senior Vice President and  
Treasurer

EXHIBIT INDEX

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