

**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): July 17, 2019

Amerant Bancorp Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Florida
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-38534

(Commission
file number)

**220 Alhambra Circle
Coral Gables, Florida 33134**
(Address of principal executive offices)

(305) 460-4038

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

65-0032379
(IRS Employer
Identification Number)

Former name, as listed on last report:
Mercantil Bank Holding Corporation

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 (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))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

<u>Title of each class</u>	<u>Trading Symbols</u>	<u>Name of exchange on which registered</u>
Class A Common Stock	AMTB	NASDAQ
Class B Common Stock	AMTBB	NASDAQ

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR §230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2).

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 accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.



CONTACTS:

Investors
InvestorRelations@amerantbank.com
(305) 460-8728

Media
media@amerantbank.com
(305) 441-8414

AMERANT BANCORP APPOINTS GERALD P. PLUSH AS A DIRECTOR

Coral Gables, Florida - Amerant Bancorp Inc. (NASDAQ: AMTB and AMTBB) (the "Company") announced today that Gerald P. Plush has been appointed as an independent director of the Company.

Mr. Plush, a highly respected financial services industry professional with over 30 years of experience, is a Partner at Patriot Financial Partners, L.P. Previously, he was Chief Executive Officer and a Director of Verdigris Holdings, Inc. Mr. Plush has also served as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and then Chief Administrative Officer of Santander Holdings USA, Inc. He has held other key executive level positions, including President and as a Director of Webster Bank, and Senior Executive Vice President (SEVP) - Managing Director of Corporate Development and SEVP - CFO at MBNA America Bank, N.A. Mr. Plush has also served on the Board of Directors of Santander Consumer USA Inc. and the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) of Pittsburgh. He is a member of the National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD).

"We are pleased to welcome Jerry to our Board of Directors," said Frederick C. Copeland, Jr., Chairman of Amerant Bancorp Inc. "His extensive experience and track record as an advisor in financial strategies will bring valuable insight to our Board as we make continued progress in our plans to build deeper customer relationships, sustainable, profitable growth, and drive shareholder value."

Mr. Plush has been appointed to the Board's Audit and Risk Committees.

"Amerant is committed to creating a uniquely personal community banking experience for its customers," said Mr. Plush. "I look forward to working with the Board and senior management and contributing to the success of the organization."

* * *

About Amerant Bancorp

Amerant Bancorp Inc. is a bank holding company headquartered in Coral Gables, Florida. The Company operates through its subsidiaries, Amerant Bank, N.A. (the "Bank"), Amerant Investments, Inc. and Amerant Trust, N.A. The Company provides individuals and businesses in the U.S., as well as select international clients, with deposit, credit and wealth management services. The Bank, which has operated for almost 40 years, is the largest community bank headquartered in Florida. The Bank operates 23 banking centers - 15 in South Florida and 8 in the Houston, Texas area - and loan production offices in Dallas, Texas and New York, New York. Please visit www.amerantbank.com or <https://investor.amerantbank.com> for more information.