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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan for the purchase or sale of equity securities of the issuer that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10.

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|---|---|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * <u>Plush Gerald P</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>220 ALHAMBRA CIRCLE</u> (Street) <u>CORAL GABLES FL 33134</u> (City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>Amerant Bancorp Inc. [AMTB]</u> | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <p style="text-align: center;">Chairman, President & CEO</p> |
| | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>05/31/2024</u> | |
| | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--------|---|----------|--------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | | | | |
| Class A Common Stock | 05/31/2024 | | A ⁽¹⁾ | V | 591.18 | A ⁽²⁾ | \$18.607 | 144,069.3 ⁽³⁾ | D | | |

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|-----|--|-----------------|---|--|--|---|--|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- The reporting person is voluntarily reporting the acquisition of shares of the Issuer's common stock pursuant to the Issuer's 2021 Employee Stock Purchase Plan ("ESPP") for the ESPP purchase period of December 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024. This transaction is exempt under Rule 16b-3(c).
- In accordance with the terms of the ESPP, the purchase price of these shares was 85% of the closing price of the Issuer's common stock on December 1, 2023.
- Includes 266 shares that were received by the reporting person as dividend equivalent shares in connection with the vesting of Performance Based Restricted Stock Units ("PSUs") on February 16, 2024, in accordance with the terms of the applicable PSUs awards agreements. The dividend was approved by the Board of Directors on January 17, 2024 and paid on February 29, 2024 to all holders of record at the close of business on February 14, 2024.

Remarks:

/s/ Julio V. Pena, as Attorney-in-Fact for Gerald P. Plush 06/17/2024

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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 Number.