

CHEMICAL FINANCIAL CORP
Form 8-K
April 14, 2014

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): April 14, 2014
Chemical Financial Corporation
(Exact Name of Registrant as
Specified in its Charter)

Michigan	000-08185	38-2022454
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(IRS Employer Identification No.)

235 E. Main Street
Midland, Michigan
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)
Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (989) 839-5350

48640
(Zip Code)

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 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure

Chemical Financial Corporation ("Chemical") will hold its annual meeting of shareholders on Monday, April 21, 2014, at 2:00 p.m. local time. At the meeting, the shareholders will (1) elect eleven directors; (2) ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as Chemical's independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2014; (3) cast an advisory approval on executive compensation; and (4) conduct any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

Chemical is making this meeting accessible to the public by telephone on a listen-only basis. Anyone interested in the meeting may access the meeting on a live basis by dialing toll-free (888) 523-1194 and entering 626245 for the pass code.

This report is furnished to, and not filed with, the Commission.

Forward-Looking Statements

It is anticipated that some of the information presented at the annual meeting will contain forward-looking statements that are based on management's beliefs, assumptions, current expectations, estimates and projections about the financial services industry, the economy and Chemical Financial Corporation (Corporation). Words such as "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "expects," "forecasts," "intends," "is likely," "judgment," "opinion," "plans," "predicts," "probable," "projects," "should," "trend," "will," and variations of such words and similar expressions are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. Such statements are based upon current beliefs and expectations and involve substantial risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. These statements include, among others, statements related to future levels of loan charge-offs, future levels of provisions for loan losses, real estate valuation, future levels of nonperforming assets, the rate of asset dispositions, future capital levels, future dividends, future growth and funding sources, future liquidity levels, future profitability levels, future deposit insurance premiums, the effects on earnings of future changes in interest rates, the future level of other revenue sources, future economic trends and conditions, future initiatives to expand the Corporation's market share, expected performance and cash flows from acquired loans, future effects of new or changed accounting standards, future opportunities for acquisitions, opportunities to increase top line revenues, the Corporation's ability to grow its core franchise, future cost savings and the Corporation's ability to maintain adequate liquidity and capital based on the requirements adopted by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision and U.S. regulators. All statements referencing future time periods are forward-looking.

Management's determination of the provision and allowance for loan losses; the carrying value of acquired loans, goodwill and mortgage servicing rights; the fair value of investment securities (including whether any impairment on any investment security is temporary or other-than-temporary and the amount of any impairment); and management's assumptions concerning pension and other postretirement benefit plans involve judgments that are inherently forward-looking. There can be no assurance that future loan losses will be limited to the amounts estimated. All of the information concerning interest rate sensitivity is forward-looking. The future effect of changes in the financial and credit markets and the national and regional economies on the banking industry, generally, and on the Corporation, specifically, are also inherently uncertain. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions ("risk factors") that are difficult to predict with regard to timing, extent, likelihood and degree of occurrence. Therefore, actual results and outcomes may materially differ from what may be expressed or forecasted in such forward-looking statements. The Corporation undertakes no obligation to update, amend or clarify forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

The annual meeting may also contain forward-looking statements regarding the Corporation's outlook or expectations with respect to the planned acquisition of Northwestern Bancorp, Inc. (Northwestern), the expected costs to be incurred in connection with the acquisition, Northwestern's future performance and consequences of its integration into the Corporation and the impact of the transaction on the Corporation's future performance.

Risk factors relating to both the transaction and the integration of Northwestern into the Corporation after closing include, without limitation:

Completion of the transaction is dependent on, among other things, receipt of regulatory and Northwestern shareholder approvals, the timing of which cannot be predicted with precision at this point and which may not be received at all.

The impact of the completion of the transaction on the Corporation's financial statements will be affected by the timing of the transaction, including in particular the ability to complete the acquisition in the third quarter of 2014. The transaction may be more expensive to complete and the anticipated benefits, including anticipated cost savings and strategic gains, may be significantly harder or take longer to achieve than expected or may not be achieved in their entirety as a result of unexpected factors or events.

The integration of Northwestern's business and operations into Chemical, which will include conversion of Northwestern's operating systems and procedures, may take longer than anticipated or be more costly than anticipated or have unanticipated adverse results relating to Northwestern's or the Corporation's existing businesses.

The Corporation's ability to achieve anticipated results from the transaction is dependent on the state of the economic and financial markets going forward. Specifically, Chemical may incur more credit losses from Northwestern's loan portfolio than expected and deposit attrition may be greater than expected.

Risk factors also include, but are not limited to, the risk factors described in Item 1A of the Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013. These and other factors are representative of the risk factors that may emerge and could cause a difference between an ultimate actual outcome and a preceding forward-looking statement.

SIGNATURES

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.

Dated: April 14, 2014

CHEMICAL FINANCIAL CORPORATION
(Registrant)

/s/ Lori A. Gwizdala
Lori A. Gwizdala
Executive Vice President, Chief Financial
Officer and Treasurer