

**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): June 28, 2023

**FIRST HAWAIIAN, INC.**  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

001-14585  
(Commission File Number)  
  
999 Bishop St., 29th Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

99-0156159  
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

96813  
(Zip Code)

(808) 525-7000  
(Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code)

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 (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:

**Title of each class:**  
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share

**Trading Symbol**  
FHB

**Name of each exchange on which registered:**  
NASDAQ Global Select Market

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

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.

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

On June 28, 2023, Mr. Ralph M. Mesick, Vice Chairman and Chief Risk Officer of First Hawaiian, Inc. (the “Company”) and First Hawaiian Bank (the “Bank”), and the Company entered into a separation agreement, pursuant to which Mr. Mesick will separate from his positions with the Company and the Bank effective July 1, 2023. In addition, on June 28, 2023, Mr. Lance A. Mizumoto, Vice Chairman and Chief Lending Officer, Wholesale Banking Group, of First Hawaiian, Inc. (the “Company”) and First Hawaiian Bank (the “Bank”), and the Company entered into a separation agreement, pursuant to which Mr. Mizumoto will separate from his positions with the Company and the Bank effective October 1, 2023.

Each of Messrs. Mesick and Mizumoto will be entitled to payments and benefits pursuant to the terms of the First Hawaiian, Inc. Executive Severance Plan (the “Plan”), including a lump sum severance payment equal to the sum of (i) each respective individual’s highest base salary earned during 2020, 2021 and 2022 plus (ii) the average bonus payments actually received by each respective individual for 2021 and 2022, and will continue to be subject to the one-year non-competition and employee and customer non-solicitation provisions thereunder, consistent with the description of the Plan under the caption “Executive Compensation – Executive Compensation Tables - Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control – Executive Severance Plan” in the Company’s Proxy Statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 16, 2023. In each case, termination of employment will constitute a retirement under the terms of the First Hawaiian, Inc. Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan.

**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.**

The Company issued a press release on June 29, 2023 announcing the retirements of Messrs. Mesick and Mizumoto, which is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this current report on Form 8-K. A copy of the press release is being furnished pursuant to Item 7.01 of Form 8-K and the information included therein shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (“Exchange Act”) or otherwise subject to the liabilities under that Section and shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing of the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
<a href="#">99.1</a>	<a href="#">Press Release issued by the Company, dated June 29, 2023</a>
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File - the cover page XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document

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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.

**FIRST HAWAIIAN, INC.**

Date: July 3, 2023

By: /s/ Robert S. Harrison  
Name: Robert S. Harrison  
Title: Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer

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## First Hawaiian, Inc. Announces Senior Leadership Transitions

Your publication date and time will appear here. | Source: [First Hawaiian, Inc.](#)



HONOLULU, June 29, 2023 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- First Hawaiian, Inc. (NASDAQ FHB) ("First Hawaiian" or the "Company") announced today the upcoming retirements of three members of its senior leadership team: Vice Chairman and Chief Risk Officer, Ralph Mesick; Vice Chairman and Chief Lending Officer, Lance Mizumoto; and Executive Vice President & Chief Human Resources Officer, Iris Matsumoto.

"Ralph, Lance and Iris have been instrumental in the success of our Bank. Their dedication, leadership and embodiment of our culture and relationship strategy have helped guide the organization," said Bob Harrison, Chairman, President & Chief Executive Officer of First Hawaiian. "In anticipation of their retirement, our succession planning process will help ensure a seamless continuity of their invaluable contributions. Ralph, Lance and Iris have left a legacy of relationship building with our customers, employees and shareholders and we are incredibly grateful for their commitment to preparing their successors for this transition."

In anticipation of these retirements, First Hawaiian is excited to announce the promotions of the individuals that will succeed Ralph, Lance and Iris. Lea Nakamura, our Deputy Chief Risk Officer, will be appointed as Chief Risk Officer, and Darlene Blakeney, Executive Vice President and Division Manager for the Corporate Banking Division of First Hawaiian Bank (the "Bank") and President of First Hawaiian Leasing, will be appointed as Chief Lending Officer, effective July 1, 2023, and October 1, 2023, respectively. Each will join the First Hawaiian Senior Management Committee upon her respective appointment. Additionally, Gina Anonuevo, Chief Compliance Officer of the Bank, will take over as Chief Human Resources Officer effective December 1, 2023. As Chief Human Resources Officer, Gina will continue to serve as a member of the First Hawaiian Senior Management Committee.

These newly promoted leaders bring a wealth of experience to their respective roles. Ms. Nakamura has over 34 years of banking experience. Prior to serving as Deputy Chief Risk Officer, she served as Treasurer for First Hawaiian Bank and in various roles in the Risk Group. She has experience in additional areas including swaps, foreign exchange, credit analyses, capital and liquidity management and analytics, stress testing and model management. Ms. Blakeney has been with First Hawaiian Bank since 2015 and has a total of over 25 years of banking experience in lending and credit administration. In addition to her banking experience, she served as the Director of Finance and Administration for Hanahau'oli School for nine years. Ms. Anonuevo has served as the Bank's Chief Compliance Officer since 2011. Prior to that, she served as Director of Audit for the Bank for five years and served as a bank examiner with the FDIC for eight years.

Mr. Harrison expressed his enthusiasm about the future of the Company's leadership, "I am delighted to welcome Lea and Darlene to the senior management team and to welcome Gina to her new role. Lea, Darlene and Gina are highly qualified for their new positions, and each of them has a thoughtful and nuanced understanding of relationship banking and risk management and their importance in our corporate culture. I am confident that each will be able to pick up seamlessly where her predecessor left off and that we will continue the excellent work that has enabled us to serve our customers so well for 165 years." Mr. Harrison thanked Ralph, Lance and Iris, "All of us at First Hawaiian Bank extend our heartfelt gratitude for your exceptional leadership and dedicated service."

#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements reflect our current views with respect to, among other things, future events and our financial performance. These statements are often, but not always, made through the use of words or phrases such as "may", "might", "should", "could", "predict", "potential", "believe", "expect", "continue", "will", "anticipate", "seek", "estimate", "intend", "plan", "projection", "would", "annualized" and "outlook", or the negative version of those words or other comparable words or phrases of a future or forward-looking nature. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts, and are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about our industry, management's beliefs and certain assumptions made by management, many of which, by their nature, are inherently uncertain and beyond our control. Accordingly, we caution you that any such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, assumptions, estimates and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable as of the date made, there can be no assurance that actual results will not prove to be

materially different from the results expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. A number of important factors could cause actual results or performance to differ materially from the forward-looking statements. For a discussion of some of these risks and important factors that could affect our future results and financial condition, see our U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") filings, including, but not limited to, our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022, and Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2023.

**First Hawaiian, Inc.**

First Hawaiian, Inc. (NASDAQ: FHB) is a bank holding company headquartered in Honolulu, Hawaii. Its principal subsidiary, First Hawaiian Bank, founded in 1858 under the name Bishop & Company, is Hawaii's oldest and largest financial institution with branch locations throughout Hawaii, Guam and Saipan. The company offers a comprehensive suite of banking services to consumer and commercial customers including deposit products, loans, wealth management, insurance, trust, retirement planning, credit card and merchant processing services. Customers may also access their accounts through ATMs, online and mobile banking channels. For more information about First Hawaiian, Inc., visit the Company's website, [www.fhb.com](http://www.fhb.com).

Media Contact:

Lindsay Chambers

Vice President & Public Relations Manager

First Hawaiian Bank

(808) 525-6254

[LChambers@fhb.com](mailto:LChambers@fhb.com)

Investor Relations Contact:

Kevin Haseyama, CFA

(808) 525-6268

[khaseyama@fhb.com](mailto:khaseyama@fhb.com)

Photos accompanying this announcement are available at:

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Darlene Blakeney

Darlene Blakeney, Executive Vice President and Division Manager for the Corporate Banking Division...



Gina Anonuevo

Gina Anonuevo, Chief Compliance Officer of the Bank, will take over as Chief Human Resources Officer.



Lea Nakamura

Lea Nakamura, the Company's Deputy Chief Risk Officer, will be appointed as Chief Risk Officer.