

PEAPACK GLADSTONE FINANCIAL CORP
Form SC 13G
November 25, 2014

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Peapack-Gladstone Financial Corporation
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, no par value
(Title of Class of Securities)

704699107
(CUSIP Number)

November 21, 2014
(Date of Event which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

Rule 13d-1(b)

Rule 13d-1(c)

Rule 13d-1(d)

* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

CUSIP No. 704699107

13G

1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS

I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)

EJF Capital LLC

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) (a) (b)

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF SHARES 5 SOLE VOTING POWER

0

BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER

662,439

EACH REPORTING 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

0

PERSON WITH 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

662,439

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

662,439

10 CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

5.4% (1)

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

IA

(1)Based on 12,289,185 shares of common stock outstanding as of November 3, 2014, as the Issuer reported in its Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 10, 2014.

CUSIP No. 704699107

13G

1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS

I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)

Emanuel J. Friedman

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) (a) (b)

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

United States

NUMBER OF 5 SOLE VOTING POWER
SHARES

0

BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER
OWNED BY

662,439

EACH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
REPORTING

0

PERSON 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
WITH

662,439

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

662,439

10 CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

5.4% (1)

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

IN

(1)Based on 12,289,185 shares of common stock outstanding as of November 3, 2014, as the Issuer reported in its Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 10, 2014.

CUSIP No. 704699107

13G

1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS

I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)

EJF Financial Services Fund, LP

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) (a) x
(b) o

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF 5 SOLE VOTING POWER
SHARES

0

BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER
OWNED BY

662,439

EACH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
REPORTING

0

PERSON 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
WITH

662,439

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

662,439

10 CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) o

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

5.4% (1)

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

PN

(1)Based on 12,289,185 shares of common stock outstanding as of November 3, 2014, as the Issuer reported in its Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 10, 2014.

CUSIP No. 704699107

13G

- 1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS
 I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)

EJF Financial Services GP, LLC

- 2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) (a) x
 (b) o

3 SEC USE ONLY

- 4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF 5 SOLE VOTING POWER
 SHARES

0

BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER
 OWNED BY

662,439

EACH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
 REPORTING

0

PERSON 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
 WITH

662,439

- 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

662,439

- 10 CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) o

- 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

5.4% (1)

- 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

OO

(1)Based on 12,289,185 shares of common stock outstanding as of November 3, 2014, as the Issuer reported in its Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 10, 2014.

Item 1. (a) Name of Issuer

Peapack-Gladstone Financial Cororation

Item 1. (b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices

500 Hills Drive, Suite 300
Bedminster, New Jersey 07921

Item 2. (a) Name of Person Filing

This Schedule 13G is being filed on behalf of the following persons (the "Reporting Persons")*:

- (i) EJV Capital LLC;
- (ii) Emanuel J. Friedman;
- (iii) EJV Financial Services Fund, LP; and
- (iv) EJV Financial Services GP, LLC.

*Attached as Exhibit A is a copy of an agreement among the Reporting Persons that this Schedule 13G is being filed on behalf of each of them.

Item 2. (b) Address of Principal Business Office or, if None, Residence

EJV Capital LLC
2107 Wilson Boulevard
Suite 410
Arlington, VA 22201

Emanuel J. Friedman
2107 Wilson Boulevard
Suite 410
Arlington, VA 22201

EJV Financial Services Fund, LP
2107 Wilson Boulevard
Suite 410
Arlington, VA 22201

EJV Financial Services GP, LLC
2107 Wilson Boulevard
Suite 410
Arlington, VA 22201

Item 2. (c) Citizenship

See Item 4 of the attached cover pages.

Item 2. (d) Title of Class of Securities

Common Stock, no par value (“Common Stock”)

Item 2. (e) CUSIP Number

704699107

Item 3. If This Statement is Filed Pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b) or (c), Check Whether the Person Filing is a:

Not Applicable.

Item 4. Ownership

(a) Amount beneficially owned:

See Item 9 of the attached cover pages.

(b) Percent of class:

See Item 11 of the attached cover pages.

(c) Number of shares as to which such person has:

(i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote:

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See Item 5 of the attached cover pages.

(ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote:

See Item 6 of the attached cover pages.

(iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition:

See Item 7 of the attached cover pages.

(iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition:

See Item 8 of the attached cover pages.

EJF Financial Services Fund, LP is the record owner of the shares of Common Stock shown on item 9 of its cover page.

EJF Financial Services GP, LLC serves as the general partner and investment manager of EJF Financial Services Fund, LP and may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares of Common Stock of which EJF Financial Services Fund, LP is the record owner.

EJF Capital LLC is the sole member and manager of EJF Financial Services GP, LLC and may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares of Common Stock of which EJF Financial Services GP, LLC may share beneficial ownership. Emanuel J. Friedman is the controlling member of EJF Capital LLC and may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares of Common Stock over which EJF Capital LLC may share beneficial ownership.

Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class

Not Applicable.

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person

See Item 4.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company

Not Applicable.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group

The filing persons may be deemed to be members of a group.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group

Not Applicable.

Item 10. Certification

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect, other than activities solely in connection with a nomination under Section 240.14a-11.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: November 25, 2014

EJF CAPITAL LLC

By: /s/ Neal J. Wilson
Name: Neal J. Wilson
Title: Chief Operating Officer

EMANUEL J. FRIEDMAN

By: /s/ Emanuel J. Friedman
Name: Emanuel J. Friedman

EJF FINANCIAL SERVICES FUND, LP

By: EJF FINANCIAL SERVICES GP, LLC
Its: General Partner

By: EJF CAPITAL LLC
Its: Sole Managing Member

By: /s/ Neal J. Wilson
Name: Neal J. Wilson
Title: Chief Operating Officer

EJF FINANCIAL FINANCIAL SERVICES GP, LLC

By: EJF CAPITAL LLC
Its: Sole Managing Member

By: /s/ Neal J. Wilson
Name: Neal J. Wilson
Title: Chief Operating Officer

EXHIBIT A

The undersigned, EJV Capital LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, Emanuel J. Friedman, EJV Financial Services Fund, LP, a Delaware limited partnership, and EJV Financial Services GP, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, hereby agree and acknowledge that the information required by this Schedule 13G, to which this Agreement is attached as an exhibit, is filed on behalf of each of them. The undersigned further agree that any further amendments or supplements thereto shall also be filed on behalf of each of them.

Dated: November 25, 2014

EJV CAPITAL LLC

By: /s/ Neal J. Wilson
Name: Neal J. Wilson
Title: Chief Operating Officer

EMANUEL J. FRIEDMAN

By: /s/ Emanuel J. Friedman
Name: Emanuel J. Friedman

EJV FINANCIAL SERVICES FUND, LP

By: EJV FINANCIAL SERVICES GP, LLC
Its: General Partner

By: EJV CAPITAL LLC
Its: Sole Managing Member

By: /s/ Neal J. Wilson
Name: Neal J. Wilson
Title: Chief Operating Officer

EJV FINANCIAL FINANCIAL SERVICES GP, LLC

By: EJV CAPITAL LLC
Its: Sole Managing Member

By: /s/ Neal J. Wilson
Name: Neal J. Wilson
Title: Chief Operating Officer