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PEAPACK GLADSTONE FINANCIAL CORP Form 8-K January 06, 2009

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)

December 31, 2008

PEAPACK-GLADSTONE FINANCIAL CORPORATION (Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

New Jersey 001-16197 22-3537895
(State or Other Jurisdiction (Commission (I.R.S. Employer of Incorporation) File Number) Identification No.)

158 Route 206, 07934
Peapack-Gladstone, New Jersey
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

(908) 234-0700

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):

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers

Arthur F. Birmingham, Peapack-Gladstone Financial Corporation's (the "Corporation") Chief Financial Officer, informed the Corporation on Wednesday, December 31, 2008 of his decision to retire. Attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 is a copy of a press release of the Corporation dated January 5, 2009.

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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.

PEAPACK-GLADSTONE FINANCIAL CORPORATION

Dated: January 6, 2009

By: /s/ Arthur F. Birmingham

Name: Arthur F. Birmingham

Title: Executive Vice President and

Chief

Financial Officer