

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

FORM S-3  
REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

BANC OF CALIFORNIA, INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

04-3639825  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

18500 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 1100  
Irvine, California 92612  
(949) 236-5211

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant’s principal executive offices)

John C. Grosvenor  
Executive Vice President and General Counsel  
Banc of California, Inc.  
18500 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 1100  
Irvine, California 92612  
(949) 236-5211

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copy of communications to:

Craig M. Scheer, P.C.  
Silver, Freedman, Taff & Tiernan LLP  
3299 K Street, N.W., Suite 100  
Washington, D.C. 20007  
(202) 295-4500

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:** From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box. ☐

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box. ☒

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. ☐

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. ☐

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box. ☒

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box. ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer” and “smaller reporting company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer ☐ Accelerated filer ☒

Non-accelerated filer ☐ (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company ☐

| CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE                       |                                              |                                                                  |                                                                   |                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| TITLE OF EACH CLASS OF<br>SECURITIES TO BE REGISTERED | AMOUNT<br>TO BE<br>REGISTERED <sup>(1)</sup> | PROPOSED<br>MAXIMUM<br>OFFERING PRICE<br>PER UNIT <sup>(1)</sup> | PROPOSED<br>MAXIMUM<br>AGGREGATE<br>OFFERING PRICE <sup>(1)</sup> | AMOUNT OF<br>REGISTRATION FEE <sup>(2)</sup> |
| Debt Securities                                       |                                              |                                                                  |                                                                   |                                              |
| Common Stock                                          |                                              |                                                                  |                                                                   |                                              |
| Preferred Stock                                       |                                              |                                                                  |                                                                   |                                              |
| Depository Shares <sup>(3)</sup>                      |                                              |                                                                  |                                                                   |                                              |
| Purchase Contracts <sup>(4)</sup>                     |                                              |                                                                  |                                                                   |                                              |
| Warrants <sup>(5)</sup>                               |                                              |                                                                  |                                                                   |                                              |
| Rights <sup>(6)</sup>                                 |                                              |                                                                  |                                                                   |                                              |
| Units <sup>(7)</sup>                                  |                                              |                                                                  |                                                                   |                                              |
| Total                                                 |                                              |                                                                  |                                                                   |                                              |

- (1) This registration covers an indeterminate number of securities of each identified class of the Registrant as may from time to time be issued at indeterminate prices. Any registered securities may be sold separately or as units with other securities registered under this registration statement. In addition, the securities may be sold in either primary or secondary offerings.
- (2) In accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant is deferring payment of the entire registration fee, except for \$27,202 that the Registrant is entitled to offset pursuant to Rule 457(p) for fees previously paid with respect to \$224,985,318 of unsold debt securities, common stock, preferred stock, depository shares, purchase contracts, warrants, rights and units of the Registrant that were registered on the Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-192518) originally filed by the Registrant with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 22, 2013 and declared effective on February 12, 2014 (as amended, the “Prior Universal Shelf Registration Statement”). In connection with the securities offered hereby, except for the offset for the \$27,202 previously paid in connection with the Prior Universal Shelf Registration Statement, the Registrant will pay the registration fee on a pay-as-you-go basis pursuant to Rule 456(b).
- (3) Each depository share will be issued under a deposit agreement, will represent an interest in a fractional share or multiple shares of preferred stock and will be evidenced by a depository receipt.
- (4) Each purchase contract may obligate the Registrant to sell, and the holder thereof to purchase, an indeterminate number of shares of common stock or preferred stock or other securities registered hereby.
- (5) Warrants will represent rights to purchase debt securities, preferred stock, common stock or other securities registered hereby. Warrants may be sold separately or with debt securities, preferred stock, common stock or other securities registered hereby.
- (6) Rights will represent representing rights to purchase shares of common stock or other securities registered hereby.
- (7) Any securities registered hereunder may be sold as units with other securities registered hereunder; each unit will be issued under a unit agreement and will represent an interest in two or more securities, which may or may not be separable from one another.

PROSPECTUS

# BANC OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

**Debt Securities**

**Common Stock**

**Preferred Stock**

**Depository Shares**

**Purchase Contracts**

**Warrants**

**Rights**

**Units**

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The securities listed above may be offered and sold, from time to time, by us and/or one or more selling security holders to be identified in the future in amounts, at prices, and on other terms to be determined at the time of the offering. We will describe the specific terms and manner of offering of these securities in a supplement to this prospectus. The prospectus supplement may also add, update, or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the related prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in the securities described in the applicable prospectus supplement. This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

We may offer and sell these securities to or through one or more underwriters, dealers and agents or directly to purchasers on a continued or delayed basis.

Our voting common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol “BANC,” the depository shares each representing a 1/40<sup>th</sup> interest in a share of our 8.00% Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series C are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol “BANC.PRC,” the depository shares each representing a 1/40<sup>th</sup> interest in a share of our 7.375% Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series D are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol “BANC.PRD” and the depository shares each representing a 1/40<sup>th</sup> interest in a share of our 7.000% Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series E are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol “BANC.PRE.”

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**Investing in the offered securities involves risks. See the section entitled “[Risk Factors](#)” contained on page 6 of this prospectus and in the applicable prospectus supplement.**

**These securities will be our equity securities or our secured or unsecured obligations and will not be savings accounts, deposits, or other obligations of any of our bank or nonbank subsidiaries and will not be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency or instrumentality.**

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined that this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

**The date of this prospectus is August 4, 2016**

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## **ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is a part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) using a “shelf” registration process. Under this shelf registration statement, we may offer and sell any combination of the securities identified in this prospectus in one or more offerings. Each time we offer and sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement and, if applicable, a pricing supplement containing specific information about the terms of the securities being offered. That prospectus supplement may include a discussion of any risk factors or other special considerations that apply to those securities. In addition, under this shelf registration process, one or more selling security holders to be identified in the future may, from time to time, offer and sell, in one or more offerings, the securities described in this prospectus. We may provide a prospectus supplement containing specific information about the terms of a particular offering by the selling security holders.

If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus (including the information incorporated by reference therein) and any prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, you should rely on the information in that prospectus supplement or pricing supplement. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement and pricing supplement together with additional information described under the heading “Where You Can Find More Information.”

The registration statement containing this prospectus, including exhibits to the registration statement, provides additional information about us and the securities offered under this prospectus. The registration statement can be read at the SEC web site or at the SEC offices mentioned under the heading “Where You Can Find More Information.”

Unless otherwise mentioned or unless the context indicates otherwise, all references in this prospectus to the “Company,” “Banc of California,” “we,” “us,” “our,” or similar references mean Banc of California, Inc. and its subsidiaries on a consolidated basis.

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on its public reference room. In addition, our SEC filings are available to the public at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" into this prospectus the information in documents we file with it. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part of this prospectus and should be read with the same care. When we update the information contained in documents that have been incorporated by reference by making future filings with the SEC the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus is considered to be automatically updated and superseded. In other words, in the case of a conflict or inconsistency between information contained in this prospectus and information incorporated by reference into this prospectus, you should rely on the information contained in the document that was filed later. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any documents we file with the SEC after the date of this prospectus under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and before the date that the offering of securities by means of this prospectus is completed (other than, in each case, documents or portions of documents deemed to have been furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules):

- our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015;
- our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended March 31, 2016 and June 30, 2016;
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on February 8, 2016, February 16, 2016, March 1, 2016, March 8, 2016, March 11, 2016, March 25, 2016, April 4, 2016, April 6, 2016, April 25, 2016, May 9, 2016, May 11, 2016, May 18, 2016, May 19, 2016 and July 1, 2016; and
- the description of our common stock set forth in the Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed on May 8, 2002, and any amendment or report filed with the SEC for the purpose of updating such description.

You may request a copy of these filings (other than an exhibit to a filing unless that exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference into that filing) at no cost, by writing or calling us at the following address:

Banc of California, Inc.  
Attention: Investor Relations  
18500 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 1100  
Irvine, California 92612  
(855) 361-2262

In addition, we maintain a corporate website, [www.bancofcal.com](http://www.bancofcal.com). We make available, through our website (by clicking "About Us" and then "Investor Relations Information"), our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and any amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. This reference to our website is for the convenience of investors as required by the SEC and shall not be deemed to incorporate any information on the website into this registration statement.

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or presented in this prospectus or the applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement. Neither we, nor any selling security holders, underwriters, dealers or agents, have authorized anyone else to provide you with different information. We and the selling security holders may only use this prospectus to sell securities if it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement. These securities are only being offered in jurisdictions where the offer is permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or the applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement is accurate as of any date other than the dates on the front of those documents.

## **FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement contain or incorporate by reference forward-looking statements about the Company that are intended to be subject to the safe harbors created under U.S. federal securities laws. The use of words such as “anticipates,” “estimates,” “expects,” “intends,” “plans” and “believes,” among others, generally identify forward-looking statements; however, these words are not the exclusive means of identifying such statements. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts.

By their nature, forward-looking statements are subject to numerous assumptions, risks, and uncertainties. A number of factors could cause actual conditions, events, or results to differ significantly from those described in the forward-looking statements. These factors include, but are not limited to, those which may be set forth in the accompanying prospectus supplement and those under the heading “Risk Factors” included in our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, and other factors described in our periodic reports filed from time to time with the SEC. Actual results, performance or achievement could differ materially from those contained in these forward-looking statements for a variety of reasons, including, without limitation, those discussed under “Risk Factors” in the applicable prospectus supplement and in other information contained in our publicly available filings with the SEC. Other unknown or unpredictable factors also could have a material adverse effect on us and our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We encourage you to understand forward-looking statements to be strategic objectives rather than absolute forecasts of future performance. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and are inherently subject to uncertainties, risks and changes in circumstances that are difficult to predict. We are not under any obligation to, nor do we intend to, publicly update or review any of these forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, even if experience or future events make it clear that any expected results expressed or implied by those forward-looking statements will not be realized. Please carefully review and consider the various disclosures made in the applicable prospectus supplement and in our other reports filed with the SEC that attempt to advise interested parties of the risks and factors that may affect our business, results of operations, financial condition or prospects.

## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary contains a general description of the securities that may be offered by this prospectus. This summary is not complete and does not contain all of the information that may be important to you. For a more complete understanding of us and the terms of the securities that may be offered, you should read carefully this entire prospectus, including the “Risk Factors” section, the applicable prospectus supplement for the securities and the other documents we refer to and incorporate by reference. In particular, we incorporate important business and financial information into this prospectus by reference.

### **The Securities That May Be Offered**

We and the selling security holders may use this prospectus to offer debt securities, common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, purchase contracts, warrants, rights or units in one or more offerings. A prospectus supplement, which we will provide for each such offering, will describe the amounts, prices and detailed terms of the securities, to the extent not described in this prospectus, and may describe risks associated with an investment in the securities in addition to those described in the “Risk Factors” section of this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference. Terms used in this prospectus will have the meanings described in this prospectus unless otherwise specified.

We and the selling security holders may sell the securities to or through underwriters, dealers or agents or directly to purchasers. We, as well as any agents acting on our behalf, reserve the sole right to accept or to reject in whole or in part any proposed purchase of our securities. Each prospectus supplement will set forth the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents involved in the sale of our securities described in that prospectus supplement and any applicable fee, commission or discount arrangements with them.

### **Debt Securities**

Our debt securities may be senior or subordinated in priority of payment. We will provide a prospectus supplement that describes the ranking, whether senior or subordinated, the specific designation, the aggregate principal amount, the purchase price, the maturity, the redemption terms, the interest rate or manner of calculating the interest rate, the time of payment of interest, if any, the terms for any conversion or exchange, including the terms relating to the adjustment of any conversion or exchange mechanism, the listing, if any, on a securities exchange and any other specific terms of the debt securities.

### **Common Stock**

We and the selling security holders may sell shares of our common stock, par value \$0.01 per share. In a prospectus supplement, we will describe the aggregate number of shares offered and the offering price or prices of the shares.

### **Preferred Stock; Depositary Shares**

We and the selling security holders may sell shares of our preferred stock in one or more series. In a prospectus supplement, to the extent not described in this prospectus, we will describe the specific designation, the aggregate number of shares offered, the dividend rate or manner of calculating the dividend rate, the dividend periods or manner of calculating the dividend periods, the ranking of the shares of the series with respect to dividends, liquidation and dissolution, the stated value of the shares of the series, the voting rights of the shares of the series, if any, whether and on what terms the shares of the series will be convertible or exchangeable, whether and on what terms we can redeem the shares of the series, whether we will offer depositary shares representing shares of the series and if so, the fraction or multiple of a share of preferred stock represented by each depositary share, whether we will list the preferred stock or depositary shares on a securities exchange and any other specific terms of the series of preferred stock.

### **Purchase Contracts**

We may issue purchase contracts, including purchase contracts issued as part of a unit with one or more other securities, for the purchase or sale of: our debt securities, preferred stock, depositary shares or common stock. The price of our debt securities or price per share of common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares, as applicable, may be fixed at the time the purchase contracts are issued or may be determined by reference to a specific formula contained in the purchase contracts. We may issue purchase contracts in such amounts and in as many distinct series as we wish.

### **Warrants**

We and the selling security holders may sell warrants to purchase our debt securities, shares of our common stock or shares of our preferred stock or depositary shares. In a prospectus supplement, to the extent not described in this prospectus, we will inform you of the exercise price and other specific terms of the warrants, including whether our or your obligations, if any, under any warrants may be satisfied by delivering or purchasing the underlying securities or their cash value.

### **Rights**

We may distribute rights to the holders of our common stock or other securities to purchase a specified number of shares of our common stock or other securities that the holder owns as of record date set by our board of directors. In a prospectus supplement, we will inform you of the exercise price and other specific terms of the rights.

### **Units**

We and the selling security holders may sell any combination of one or more of the other securities described in this prospectus, together as units. In a prospectus supplement, we will describe the particular combination of securities constituting any units and any other specific terms of the units.



## **RISK FACTORS**

Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider the risks described under “Risk Factors” in the applicable prospectus supplement and in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, and in our updates to those Risk Factors in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, together with all of the other information appearing in this prospectus or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, in light of your particular investment objectives and financial circumstances. In addition to those risk factors, there may be additional risks and uncertainties of which management is not aware or that management deems immaterial. Our business, financial condition or results or operations could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks. The trading price of our securities could decline due to any of these risks, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

### **BANC OF CALIFORNIA, INC.**

Banc of California, Inc., a financial holding company regulated by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the “Federal Reserve Board”), is focused on empowering California’s diverse private businesses, entrepreneurs and communities. It is the parent company of Banc of California, National Association, a California-based bank that is regulated by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (the “Bank”). The Bank has one wholly owned subsidiary, CS Financial, Inc. (“CS Financial”), a mortgage banking firm. Banc of California, Inc. was incorporated under Maryland law in March 2002, and was formerly known as “First PacTrust Bancorp, Inc.”, and changed its name to “Banc of California, Inc.” in July 2013.

On November 1, 2010, the Company was recapitalized by outside investors with the goal of creating California’s bank. Since that time, the Company has grown from less than \$1 billion in total assets to more than \$10 billion in total assets at June 30, 2016. This has resulted from both strong organic growth and opportunistic acquisitions. Over the previous five years, the Company completed seven acquisitions: three whole bank transactions (Gateway Bancorp, Beach Business Bank, and The Private Bank of California), the acquisitions of The Palisades Group, LLC (which subsequently was sold), CS Financial, and RenovationReady, and the acquisition of California branch locations from Banco Popular North America.

The Bank is headquartered in Irvine, California and at June 30, 2016, the Bank had 87 California banking locations including 38 full service branches in San Diego, Orange, Santa Barbara, and Los Angeles Counties.

Banc of California’s mission and vision guide its strategic plan. The Company focuses on three core values: operational excellence, superior analytics and entrepreneurialism. The Company is focused on California and core banking products and services designed to cater to the unique needs of California’s diverse private businesses, entrepreneurs and communities. During 2015, the Bank was awarded an Outstanding rating for Community Reinvestment Act (“CRA”) activities by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. As of December 31, 2015, we were the largest independent public bank in California with an Outstanding CRA rating.

As part of delivering on our value proposition to clients, we offer a variety of financial products and services designed around our target client in order to serve all of their banking and financial needs. This includes both deposit products offered through the Company’s multiple channels that include retail banking, business banking and private banking, as well as lending products including residential mortgage lending, commercial lending, commercial real estate lending, multifamily lending, specialty lending including Small Business Administration lending, commercial specialty finance and construction lending.

The Bank’s deposit and banking product and service offerings include checking, savings, money market, certificates of deposit, retirement accounts as well as online, telephone, and mobile banking, automated bill payment, cash and treasury management, master demand accounts, foreign exchange, interest rate swaps, trust services, card payment services, remote and mobile deposit capture, ACH origination, wire transfer, direct deposit, and safe deposit boxes. Bank customers also have the ability to access their accounts through a nationwide network of over 55,000 surcharge-free ATMs.

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At June 30, 2016, on a consolidated basis, we had total assets of \$10.2 billion, total deposits of \$7.9 billion and total stockholders' equity of \$939.9 million.

Our principal executive offices are located at 18500 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 1100, Irvine, California 92612. Our telephone number is (855) 361-2262.

Additional information about us and our subsidiaries is included in documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus. See "Where You Can Find More Information" on page 2 of this prospectus.

## RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS

Our historical ratios of earnings to fixed charges and ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividend requirements for the periods indicated are set forth in the table below. The ratio of earnings to fixed charges is computed by dividing earnings by fixed charges. The ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends is computed by dividing earnings by the sum of fixed charges and preferred stock dividends. For purposes of computing these ratios, earnings consist of income before income taxes plus interest expense, and fixed charges consist of interest expense and the interest portion of our rental expense. Preferred stock dividend requirements represent the amount of pre-tax income required to pay dividends on preferred shares using our 42% marginal income tax rate.

|                                                                                      | Six Months Ended<br>June 30, |      | Year Ended December 31, |      |      |      |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------|-------------------------|------|------|------|--------|
|                                                                                      | 2016                         | 2015 | 2015                    | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 | 2011   |
| <b>Ratio of earnings to fixed charges:(1)</b>                                        |                              |      |                         |      |      |      |        |
| Excluding interest on deposits                                                       | 6.45                         | 5.84 | 5.43                    | 2.73 | 1.55 | 2.54 | (1.33) |
| Including interest on deposits                                                       | 3.48                         | 3.11 | 3.05                    | 1.60 | 1.21 | 1.57 | 0.53   |
| <b>Ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends:(2)</b> |                              |      |                         |      |      |      |        |
| Excluding interest on deposits                                                       | 2.91                         | 3.50 | 3.09                    | 1.83 | 1.12 | 1.53 | (0.77) |
| Including interest on deposits                                                       | 2.24                         | 2.41 | 2.26                    | 1.36 | 1.05 | 1.26 | 0.46   |

- (1) The ratios of earnings to fixed charges for both excluding and including interest on deposits were less than one-to-one for the year ended December 31, 2011. Earnings were insufficient to cover fixed charges by \$2.9 million for the period.
- (2) The ratios of earnings to fixed charges and preferred stock dividends both excluding and including interest on deposits were less than one-to-one for the year ended December 31, 2011. Earnings were insufficient to cover fixed charges by \$3.8 million for the period.

## **USE OF PROCEEDS**

We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities for general corporate purposes unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement relating to a specific issue of securities. Our general corporate purposes may include, without limitation, financing acquisitions, repurchasing our securities, extending credit to, or funding investments in, our subsidiaries and repaying, reducing or refinancing indebtedness.

The precise amounts and the timing of our use of the net proceeds will depend upon market conditions, our subsidiaries' funding requirements, the availability of other funds and other factors. Until we use the net proceeds from the sale of any of our securities for general corporate purposes, we expect to use the net proceeds to reduce our indebtedness or for temporary investments. We expect that we will, on a recurrent basis, engage in additional financings as the need arises to finance our corporate strategies, to fund our subsidiaries, to finance acquisitions or otherwise.

We will not receive the proceeds from any sales by selling security holders.

## DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

We may issue senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities. Senior debt securities will be issued under an indenture, referred to as the “senior indenture,” between us and a senior indenture trustee to be named in the applicable prospectus supplement. Subordinated debt securities will be issued under a separate indenture, referred to as the “subordinated indenture,” between us and a subordinated indenture trustee to be named in the applicable prospectus supplement. The senior indenture and the subordinated indenture are sometimes collectively referred to in this prospectus as the “indentures.” The indentures will be subject to and governed by the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended. A copy of the form of each of these indentures is included as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

The following briefly describes the general terms and provisions of the debt securities which may be offered and the indentures governing them. The particular terms of the debt securities offered, and the extent, if any, to which these general provisions may apply to the debt securities so offered, will be described in a prospectus supplement relating to those securities. The following descriptions of the indentures are not complete and are subject to, and are qualified in their entirety by reference to, all the provisions of the respective indentures.

### General

The indentures permit us to issue the debt securities from time to time, without limitation as to aggregate principal amount, and in one or more series. The indentures also do not limit or otherwise restrict the amount of other indebtedness which we may incur or other securities which we or our subsidiaries may issue, including indebtedness which may rank senior to the debt securities. Nothing in the subordinated indenture prohibits the issuance of securities representing subordinated indebtedness that is senior or junior to the subordinated debt securities.

Unless we give you different information in the prospectus supplement, the senior debt securities will be unsubordinated obligations and will rank equally with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. Payments on the subordinated debt securities will be subordinated to the prior payment in full of all of our senior debt, as described under “Description of Debt Securities—Subordination” and in the applicable prospectus supplement.

We may issue debt securities if the conditions contained in the applicable indenture are satisfied. These conditions include the establishment of the terms of the debt securities being issued in or pursuant to a supplemental indenture or resolutions adopted by our board of directors. Such terms may include:

- the title and series designation;
- the aggregate principal amount and the limit, if any, on the aggregate principal amount or initial issue price of the debt securities which may be issued under the applicable indenture;
- the principal amount payable, whether at maturity or upon earlier acceleration;
- whether the principal amount payable will be determined with reference to an index, formula or other method which may be based on one or more currencies, currency units, composite currencies, commodities, equity indices or other indices;
- whether the debt securities will be issued as original issue discount securities (as defined below);
- the date or dates on which the principal of the debt securities is payable;
- any fixed or variable interest rate or rates per annum or the method or formula for determining an interest rate;
- the date from which any interest will accrue;
- any interest payment dates;

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- whether the debt securities are senior or subordinated, and if subordinated, the terms of the subordination;
- the price or prices at which the debt securities will be issued, which may be expressed as a percentage of the aggregate principal amount of those debt securities;
- the stated maturity date;
- whether the debt securities are to be issued in global form;
- any sinking fund requirements;
- any provisions for redemption, the redemption price and any remarketing arrangements;
- the denominations of the securities or series of securities;
- whether the debt securities are denominated or payable in United States dollars or a foreign currency or units of two or more foreign currencies;
- any restrictions on the offer, sale and delivery of the debt securities;
- the place or places where payments or deliveries on the debt securities will be made and may be presented for registration of transfer or exchange;
- whether any of the debt securities will be subject to defeasance in advance of the date for redemption or the stated maturity date;
- the terms, if any, upon which the debt securities are convertible into other securities of ours and the terms and conditions upon which any conversion will be effected, including the initial conversion price or rate, the conversion period and any other provisions in addition to or instead of those described in this prospectus;
- a description of any documents or certificates that must be received prior to the issuance of any definitive securities;
- whether and under what circumstances additional amounts will be paid to non-U.S. citizens in connection with any tax, assessment or governmental charge and whether securities may be redeemed in lieu of paying such additional fees;
- the identity of each security registrar or paying agent (if other than trustee);
- any provisions granting special rights to securities holders upon the occurrence of specified events;
- any deletions from, modifications of, or additions to any default events or covenants set forth in the form of indenture;
- the portion of the principal amount payable upon the declaration of acceleration of the maturity of any securities;
- the date any bearer securities of or within the series and any temporary global security representing outstanding securities shall be dated, if other than date of original issuance; and
- any other terms of the debt securities which are not inconsistent with the provisions of the applicable indenture.

The debt securities may be issued as “original issue discount securities” which bear no interest or interest at a rate which at the time of issuance is below market rates and which will be sold at a substantial discount below their principal amount. If the maturity of any original issue discount security is accelerated, the amount payable to the holder of the security will be determined by the applicable prospectus supplement, the terms of the security and the relevant indenture, but may be an amount less than the amount payable at the maturity of the principal of that original issue discount security. Special federal income tax and other considerations relating to original issue discount securities will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

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Under the indentures, the terms of the debt securities of any series may differ and we may, without the consent of the holders of the debt securities of any series, reopen a previous series of debt securities and issue additional debt securities of that series or establish additional terms of that series.

Please see the prospectus supplement and any related pricing supplement you have received or will receive for the terms of the specific debt securities we are offering.

You should be aware that special United States Federal income tax, accounting and other considerations may apply to the debt securities. The prospectus supplement relating to an issue of debt securities will describe these considerations.

### **Ranking of Debt Securities; Holding Company Structure**

*Senior Debt Securities.* Payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on senior debt securities will rank on a parity with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated debt.

*Subordinated Debt Securities.* Payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on subordinated debt securities will be junior in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all of our senior debt, including senior debt securities. We will state in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to any subordinated debt securities the subordination terms of the securities as well as the aggregate amount of outstanding debt, as of the most recent practicable date, that by its terms would be senior to those subordinated debt securities. We will also state in that prospectus supplement limitations, if any, on the issuance of additional senior debt.

*Holding Company Structure.* The debt securities will be our exclusive obligations. We are a holding company and substantially all of our consolidated assets are held by our subsidiaries. Accordingly, our cash flows and our ability to service our debt, including the debt securities, are dependent upon the results of operations of our subsidiaries and the distribution of funds by our subsidiaries to us. Various statutory and regulatory restrictions, however, limit directly or indirectly the amount of dividends our subsidiaries can pay, and also restrict certain subsidiaries from making investments in or loans to us.

Because we are a holding company, the debt securities will be effectively subordinated to all existing and future liabilities, including indebtedness, customer deposits, trade payables, guarantees and lease obligations, of our subsidiaries. Therefore, our rights and the rights of our creditors, including the holders of the debt securities, to participate in the assets of any subsidiary upon that subsidiary's liquidation or reorganization will be subject to the prior claims of the subsidiary's creditors and, if applicable, its depositors, except to the extent that we may ourselves be a creditor with recognized claims against the subsidiary, in which case our claims would still be effectively subordinate to any security interest in, or mortgages or other liens on, the assets of the subsidiary and would be subordinate to any indebtedness of the subsidiary senior to that held by us. If a receiver or conservator were appointed for the Bank, the Federal Deposit Insurance Act recognizes a priority in favor of the holders of withdrawable deposits (including the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as subrogee or transferee) over general creditors. Claims for customer deposits would have a priority over any claims that we may ourselves have as a creditor of the Bank. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the applicable indenture will not limit the amount of indebtedness or other liabilities that we and our subsidiaries may incur.

### **Registration and Transfer**

Holders may present debt securities in registered form for transfer or exchange for other debt securities of the same series at the offices of the applicable indenture trustee according to the terms of the applicable indenture and the debt securities.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will be issued in fully registered form, and in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof.

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No service charge will be required for any transfer or exchange of the debt securities but we generally may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with any transfer or exchange.

### **Payment and Place of Payment**

We will pay or deliver principal and any premium and interest in the manner, at the places and subject to the restrictions set forth in the applicable indenture, the debt securities and the applicable prospectus supplement. However, at our option, we may pay any interest by check mailed to the holders of registered debt securities at their registered addresses.

### **Global Securities**

Each indenture provides that we may issue debt securities in global form. If any series of debt securities is issued in global form, the prospectus supplement will describe any circumstances under which beneficial owners of interests in any of those global debt securities may exchange their interests for debt securities of that series and of like tenor and principal amount in any authorized form and denomination. See “Description of Global Securities.”

### **Redemption and Repurchase**

The debt securities of any series may be redeemable at our option, may be subject to mandatory redemption pursuant to a sinking fund or otherwise, or may be subject to repurchase by us at the option of the holders, in each case upon the terms, at the times and at the prices set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement and pricing supplement, if any.

### **Conversion or Exchange Rights**

If debt securities may be convertible into or exchangeable for shares of our equity securities or other securities of ours, the terms and conditions of conversion or exchange will be stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. The terms will include, among others, the following:

- the conversion or exchange price;
- the conversion or exchange period;
- provisions regarding the convertibility or exchangeability of the debt securities, including who may convert or exchange;
- events requiring adjustment to the conversion or exchange price;
- provisions affecting conversion or exchange in the event of our redemption of the debt securities; and
- any anti-dilution provisions, if applicable.

### **Absence of Limitation on Indebtedness and Liens; Absence of Event Risk Protection**

Unless otherwise stated in the prospectus supplement relating to a series of debt securities, the indentures will not limit the amount of indebtedness, guarantees or other liabilities that we and our subsidiaries may incur and will not prohibit us or our subsidiaries from creating or assuming liens on our properties, including the capital stock of our subsidiaries. Unless otherwise provided in the related prospectus supplement, the indentures will not require us to maintain any financial ratios or specified levels of net worth, revenues, income, cash flow or liquidity, and will not contain provisions which would give holders of the debt securities the right to require us to repurchase their debt securities in the event we undergo a takeover, recapitalization or similar restructuring or change in control.



## Events of Default

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the following are events of default under the senior indenture with respect to the senior debt securities and under the subordinated indenture with respect to the subordinated debt securities:

- default in the payment of any principal or premium or make-whole amount, if any, on the debt securities when due;
- default in the payment of any interest or additional amounts on the debt securities, or of any coupon pertaining thereto, when due, which continues for 30 days;
- default in the deposit of any sinking fund payment on the debt securities when due;
- default in the performance or breach of any other obligation contained in the applicable indenture for the benefit of that series of debt securities (other than defaults or breaches otherwise specifically addressed), which continues for 90 days after written notice of the default or breach;
- specified events in bankruptcy or insolvency; and
- any other event of default provided with respect to the debt securities of any series.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, if an event of default occurs and is continuing for any series of senior debt securities, unless the principal amount of all senior debt securities of that particular series has already become due and payable, the indenture trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding senior debt securities of that series may declare all amounts, or any lesser amount provided for in the senior debt securities of that series, to be immediately due and payable.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, no event of default described in the first, second, third, fourth or sixth bullet points above will permit acceleration of the payment of the principal of the subordinated debt securities. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, if an event of default described under the fifth bullet point above shall have occurred and be continuing, unless the principal amount of all the subordinated debt securities of a particular series has already become due and payable, the indenture trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of the subordinated debt securities of that series may declare all amounts or any lesser amount provided for in the subordinated debt securities of that series to be immediately due and payable.

At any time after the applicable indenture trustee or the holders have accelerated a series of debt securities, but before the applicable indenture trustee has obtained a judgment or decree for payment of money due, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of outstanding debt securities of that series may rescind and annul that acceleration and its consequences, provided that all payments and/or deliveries due, other than those due as a result of acceleration, have been made and all events of default have been remedied or waived.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may waive any default with respect to that series, except a default:

- in the payment of any amounts due and payable or deliverable under the debt securities of that series; or
- in an obligation contained in, or a provision of, an indenture which cannot be modified under the terms of that indenture without the consent of each holder of each series of debt securities affected.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of a series may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the applicable indenture trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the indenture trustee with respect to debt securities of that series, provided that any direction is not in conflict with any rule of law or the applicable indenture and the

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trustee may take other actions, other than those that might lead to personal liability, not inconsistent with the direction. Subject to the provisions of the applicable indenture relating to the duties of the indenture trustee, before proceeding to exercise any right or power under the indenture at the direction of the holders, the indenture trustee is entitled to receive from those holders security or indemnity satisfactory to the indenture trustee against the costs, expenses and liabilities which it might incur in complying with any direction.

A holder of any debt security of any series will have the right to institute a proceeding with respect to the applicable indenture or for any remedy under the indenture, if:

- that holder previously gives to the indenture trustee written notice of a continuing event of default with respect to debt securities of that series;
- the holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of the outstanding securities of that series have made written request and offered the indenture trustee indemnity satisfactory to the indenture trustee to institute that proceeding as indenture trustee;
- the indenture trustee has not received from the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series a direction inconsistent with the request; and
- the indenture trustee fails to institute the proceeding within 60 days.

However, the holder of any debt security or coupon has the right to receive payment of the principal of (and premium or make-whole amount, if any) and interest on, and any additional amounts in respect of, such debt security or payment of such coupon on the respective due dates (or, in the case of redemption, on the redemption date) and to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment.

We are required to furnish to the indenture trustees annually a statement as to the performance of our obligations under the indentures and as to any default in that performance of which we are aware.

### **Modification and Waiver**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, Banc of California, Inc. and the applicable indenture trustee may amend and modify each indenture or debt securities under that indenture with the consent of holders of at least a majority in principal amount of each series of all outstanding debt securities then outstanding under the indenture affected. However, without the consent of each holder of any debt security issued under the applicable indenture, we may not amend or modify that indenture to:

- change the stated maturity date of the principal of (or premium or make-whole amount, if any, on), or any installment of principal or interest on, any debt security issued under that indenture;
- reduce the principal amount of or any make-whole amount, the rate of interest on or any additional amounts payable in respect thereof, or any premium payable upon the redemption of any debt security issued under that indenture;
- reduce the amount of principal of an original issue discount security or make-whole amount, if any, issued under that indenture payable upon acceleration of its maturity or provable in bankruptcy;
- change the place or currency of payment of principal or any premium or any make-whole amount or interest on any debt security issued under that indenture;
- impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment or delivery on or with respect to any debt security issued under that indenture;
- reduce the percentage in principal amount of debt securities of any series issued under that indenture, the consent of whose holders is required to modify or amend the indenture or to waive compliance with certain provisions of the indenture; or

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- make any change that adversely affects the right to convert or exchange any security or decrease the conversion/exchange rate or increase the conversion/exchange price.

The holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series issued under that indenture may, with respect to that series, waive past defaults under the indenture, except as described under “—Events of Default.”

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we and the applicable indenture trustee may also amend and modify each indenture without the consent of any holder for any of the following purposes:

- to evidence the succession of another person to Banc of California, Inc.;
- to add to our covenants for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of debt securities;
- to add events of default for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of debt securities;
- to add or change any provisions of the indentures to facilitate the issuance of bearer securities;
- to change or eliminate any of the provisions of the applicable indenture in respect of any series of debt securities, so long as any such change or elimination will become effective only in respect of any series of securities when there is no outstanding security of that series which is entitled to the benefit of that provision;
- to establish the form or terms of debt securities of any series;
- to evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor indenture trustee;
- to cure any ambiguity, to correct or supplement any provision in the applicable indenture, or to make any other provisions with respect to matters or questions arising under that indenture, so long as the interests of holders of debt securities of any series are not adversely affected in any material respect by the actions taken to cure, correct or supplement a provision in an indenture;
- to secure securities;
- to provide for conversion rights of the holders of the debt securities of any series to enable those holders to convert those securities into other securities;
- to close the indenture with respect to the authentication and delivery of additional series of securities or to qualify or maintain qualifications of the applicable indenture under the Trust Indenture Act; or
- to supplement any of the provisions of an indenture as is necessary to permit or facilitate the defeasance or discharge of any series of securities under specified provisions of the indenture, provided that any such action shall not adversely affect the interests of the holders of securities of such series or any other series of securities under the indenture in any material respect.

## **Voting**

The indentures contain provisions for convening meetings of the holders of debt securities of a series. A meeting will be permitted to be called at any time by the applicable trustee, and also, upon request, by us or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series, in any such case upon notice given as provided in such indenture. Except for any consent that must be given by the holder of each debt security affected by the modifications and amendments of an indenture described above, any resolution presented at a meeting or adjourned meeting duly reconvened at which a quorum is present may be adopted by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series represented at such meeting.

Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, except as referred to above, any resolution relating to a request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other action that may be made, given or taken by the

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holders of a specified percentage, which is less than a majority, of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of a series may be adopted at a meeting or adjourned meeting duly reconvened at which a quorum is present by the affirmative vote of such specified percentage.

Any resolution passed or decision taken at any properly held meeting of holders of debt securities of any series will be binding on all holders of such series. The quorum at any meeting called to adopt a resolution, and at any reconvened meeting, will be persons holding or representing a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of a series. However, if any action is to be taken relating to a consent or waiver which may be given by the holders of at least a specified percentage in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of a series, the persons holding such percentage will constitute a quorum.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the indentures provide that if any action is to be taken at a meeting with respect to any request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other action that such indenture expressly provides may be made, given or taken by the holders of a specified percentage in principal amount of all outstanding debt securities affected by such action, or of the holders of such series and one or more additional series:

- there shall be no minimum quorum requirement for such meeting; and
- the principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series that vote in favor of such request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other action shall be taken into account in determining whether such request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other action has been made, given or taken under such indenture.

### **Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may consolidate or merge with or into any other person, and we may sell, lease or convey all or substantially all of our assets to any person, provided that

(i) the resulting entity, if other than Banc of California, Inc., is an entity organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America or any U.S. state or the District of Columbia and expressly assumes our obligations to: (1) pay or deliver the principal and any premium or make-whole amount, if any, and any interest on, the debt securities; and (2) perform and observe all of our other obligations under the indentures and supplemental indentures; and

(ii) immediately after giving effect to the transaction, no event of default under the indenture shall have occurred and be continuing.

The indentures do not provide for any right of acceleration in the event of a consolidation, merger, sale of all or substantially all of the assets, recapitalization or change in our stock ownership. In addition, the indentures do not contain any provision which would protect the holders of debt securities against a sudden and dramatic decline in credit quality resulting from takeovers, recapitalizations or similar restructurings.

### **International Offering**

If specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may issue debt securities outside the United States. Those debt securities will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. In connection with any offering outside the United States, we will designate paying agents, registrars or other agents with respect to the debt securities, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement whether our debt securities issued outside the United States: (1) may be subject to certain selling restrictions; (2) may be listed on one or more foreign stock exchanges; and (3) may have special United States tax and other considerations applicable to an offering outside the United States.

## Defeasance

We may terminate or “defease” our obligations under the applicable indenture with respect to the debt securities of any series by taking the following steps:

(1) depositing irrevocably with the indenture trustee an amount, which through the payment of interest, principal or premium, if any, will provide an amount sufficient to pay the entire amount of the debt securities:

- in the case of debt securities denominated in U.S. dollars, U.S. dollars or U.S. government obligations;
- in the case of debt securities denominated in a foreign currency, of money in that foreign currency or foreign government obligations of the foreign government or governments issuing that foreign currency; or
- a combination of money and U.S. government obligations or foreign government obligations, as applicable;

(2) delivering:

- an opinion of independent counsel that the holders of the debt securities of that series will have no federal income tax consequences as a result of that deposit and termination;
- an opinion of independent counsel that registration is not required under the Investment Company Act of 1940;
- an opinion of counsel as to certain other matters;
- officers’ certificates certifying as to compliance with the indenture and other matters; and

(3) paying all other amounts due under the indenture.

Further, the defeasance cannot cause an event of default under the indenture or any other material agreement or instrument and no event of default under the indenture can exist at the time the defeasance occurs.

## Subordination

The subordinated debt securities will be subordinated in right of payment to all “senior debt,” as defined in the subordinated indenture. In certain circumstances relating to our liquidation, dissolution, receivership, reorganization, insolvency or similar proceedings, the holders of all senior debt will first be entitled to receive payment in full before the holders of the subordinated debt securities will be entitled to receive any payment on the subordinated debt securities.

In addition, we may make no payment on the subordinated debt securities in the event:

- there is an event of default with respect to any senior debt which permits the holders of that senior debt to accelerate the maturity of the senior debt; and
- the default is the subject of judicial proceedings or we receive notice of the default from an authorized person under the subordinated indenture.

By reason of this subordination in favor of the holders of senior debt, in the event of an insolvency our creditors who are not holders of senior debt or the subordinated debt securities may recover less, proportionately, than holders of senior debt and may recover more, proportionately, than holders of the subordinated debt securities. Unless otherwise specified in the prospectus supplement relating to the particular series of subordinated debt securities, “senior debt” is defined in the subordinated indenture as the principal, premium, if any, unpaid interest (including interest accruing on or after the filing of any petition in bankruptcy or for reorganization relating to Banc of California, Inc. whether or not a claim for post-filing interest is allowed in

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such proceeding), fees, charges, expenses, reimbursement and indemnification obligations, and all other amounts payable under or in respect of the following indebtedness of Banc of California, Inc. for money borrowed, whether any such indebtedness exists as of the date of the indenture or is created, incurred, assumed or guaranteed after such date:

- (i) any debt (a) for money borrowed by Banc of California, Inc., or (b) evidenced by a bond, note, debenture, or similar instrument (including purchase money obligations) given in connection with the acquisition of any business, property or assets, whether by purchase, merger, consolidation or otherwise, but shall not include any account payable or other obligation created or assumed in the ordinary course of business in connection with the obtaining of materials or services, or (c) which is a direct or indirect obligation which arises as a result of banker's acceptances or bank letters of credit issued to secure obligations of Banc of California, Inc., or to secure the payment of revenue bonds issued for the benefit of Banc of California, Inc. whether contingent or otherwise;
- (ii) any debt of others described in the preceding clause (i) which Banc of California, Inc. has guaranteed or for which it is otherwise liable;
- (iii) the obligation of Banc of California, Inc. as lessee under any lease of property which is reflected on Banc of California's balance sheet as a capitalized lease; and
- (iv) any deferral, amendment, renewal, extension, supplement or refunding of any liability of the kind described in any of the preceding clauses (i), (ii) and (iii).

"Senior debt" does not include (1) any such indebtedness, obligation or liability referred to in clauses (i) through (iv) above as to which, in the instrument creating or evidencing the same or pursuant to which the same is outstanding, it is provided that such indebtedness, obligation or liability is not superior in right of payment to the subordinated debt securities, or ranks pari passu with the subordinated debt securities, (2) any such indebtedness, obligation or liability which is subordinated to indebtedness of Banc of California, Inc. to substantially the same extent as or to a greater extent than the subordinated debt securities are subordinated, (3) any indebtedness to a subsidiary of Banc of California, Inc. and (4) the subordinated debt securities.

The subordinated indenture does not limit or prohibit the incurrence of additional senior debt, which may include indebtedness that is senior to the subordinated debt securities, but subordinate to our other obligations. Any prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of subordinated debt securities will set forth the aggregate amount of our indebtedness senior to the subordinated debt securities as of a recent practicable date.

The prospectus supplement may further describe the provisions, if any, which may apply to the subordination of the subordinated debt securities of a particular series.

### **Restrictive Covenants**

The subordinated indenture does not contain any significant restrictive covenants. The prospectus supplement relating to a series of subordinated debt securities may describe certain restrictive covenants, if any, to which we may be bound under the subordinated indenture.

### **Governing Law**

Unless indicated otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the indentures and the debt securities will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

## DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK AND PREFERRED STOCK

Our authorized capital stock consists of:

- 450,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$.01 per share; and
- 50,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$.01 per share.

Our charter authorizes our board of directors to classify or reclassify any unissued shares of capital stock from time to time into one or more classes or series of stock by setting or changing in one or more respects the preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends, qualifications or terms and conditions of redemption of such shares. Our charter provides by its terms that it may be amended by action of our board of directors without a stockholder vote to change the number of shares of authorized capital stock. As of June 30, 2016, there were 51,239,212 shares of common stock issued and 49,640,189 shares of common stock outstanding. Of the 49,640,189 shares of common stock outstanding, 49,478,348 were shares of common stock with full voting rights (the “Voting Common Stock”) and 161,841 were shares of Class B Non-Voting Common Stock, which have no voting rights except as required by law (the “Non-Voting Common Stock,” and together with the Voting Common Stock, the “common stock”). As of June 30, 2016, there were 280,250 shares of preferred stock issued and outstanding, consisting of 40,250 shares of our 8.00% Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series C, liquidation amount \$1,000 per share (“Series C Preferred Stock”), 115,000 shares of our 7.375% Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series D, liquidation amount \$1,000 per share (“Series D Preferred Stock”) and 125,000 shares of our 7.000% Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series E, liquidation amount \$1,000 per share (“Series E Preferred Stock”).

In this section we describe certain features and rights of our capital stock. The summary does not purport to be exhaustive and is qualified in its entirety by reference to our charter and bylaws and to applicable Maryland law.

### Common Stock

Except as described below under “—Anti-takeover Effects—Voting Limitation,” each holder of Voting Common Stock is entitled to one vote for each share on all matters to be voted upon by the common stockholders. There are no cumulative voting rights. Holders of Non-Voting Common Stock are not entitled to vote except as required by law. The terms of the Non-Voting Common Stock are otherwise identical to the terms of the Voting Common Stock. Of the 450,000,000 shares of common stock currently authorized under our charter, our board of directors has classified 3,136,156 as Non-Voting Common Stock.

Subject to preferences to which holders of the Series C Preferred Stock, Series D Preferred Stock and Series E Preferred Stock and any other shares of preferred or other stock then outstanding may be entitled, holders of common stock will be entitled to receive ratably any dividends that may be declared from time to time by our board of directors out of funds legally available for that purpose. In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, holders of common stock will be entitled to share in our assets remaining after the payment or provision for payment of our debts and other liabilities, and the satisfaction of the liquidation preferences of the holders of the Series C Preferred Stock, Series D Preferred Stock, Series E Preferred Stock and any other series of our preferred stock then outstanding. Holders of common stock have no preemptive or conversion rights or other subscription rights under our charter or Maryland law except as we may agree to provide to them. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions that apply to the common stock. The rights, preferences and privileges of the holders of common stock are subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of the holders of shares of the Series C Preferred Stock, Series D Preferred Stock, Series E Preferred Stock and the shares of any series of preferred or other stock that we may designate in the future.

### Preferred Stock

The following summary contains a description of the general terms of the preferred stock that we may issue. The specific terms of any series of preferred stock will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to that

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series of preferred stock. The terms of any series of preferred stock may differ from the terms described below. Certain provisions of the preferred stock described below and in any prospectus supplement are not complete. You should refer to the articles supplementary to our charter with respect to the establishment of a series of preferred stock which will be filed with the SEC in connection with the offering of such series of preferred stock.

*General.* Our charter permits our board of directors to authorize the issuance of up to 50,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series, without stockholder action. The board of directors can fix the designation, powers, preferences and rights of each series. Therefore, without approval of the holders of our common stock or the Series C Preferred Stock, Series D Preferred Stock or Series E Preferred Stock (except as may be required under the terms of the Series C Preferred Stock, Series D Preferred Stock or Series E Preferred Stock (see “—Series C Preferred Stock-Voting Rights,” “—Series D Preferred Stock-Voting Rights” and “—Series E Preferred Stock-Voting Rights”) or as may be required by the rules of the New York Stock Exchange or any other exchange or market on which our securities may then be listed or quoted), our board of directors may authorize the issuance of preferred stock with voting, dividend, liquidation and conversion and other rights that could dilute the voting power or other rights or adversely affect the market value of our common stock and may assist management in impeding any unfriendly takeover or attempted change in control. See “—Anti-Takeover Effects—Authorized Shares.”

The preferred stock has the terms described below unless otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of the preferred stock or, in the case of the Series C Preferred Stock, the Series D Preferred Stock and the Series E Preferred Stock, as described under “—Series C Preferred Stock,” “—Series D Preferred Stock” and “—Series E Preferred Stock,” respectively. You should read the prospectus supplement relating to the particular series of the preferred stock being offered for specific terms, including:

- the designation of the series of preferred stock and the number of shares offered;
- the amount of liquidation preference per share, if any;
- the price at which the preferred stock will be issued;
- the dividend rate, or method of calculation, the dates on which dividends will be payable, whether dividends will be cumulative or noncumulative and, if cumulative, the dates from which dividends will commence to cumulate;
- any listing of the preferred stock being offered on any securities exchange or other securities market;
- any voting rights;
- any redemption or sinking fund provisions;
- any conversion provisions;
- whether interests in the preferred stock being offered will be represented by depositary shares; and
- any other specific terms of the preferred stock being offered.

Unless otherwise specified in the prospectus supplement, each series of preferred stock will rank equally as to dividends and liquidation rights in all respects with each other series of preferred stock. The rights of holders of shares of each series of preferred stock will be subordinate to those of our general creditors.

*Rank.* Any series of the preferred stock will, with respect to the priority of the payment of dividends and the priority of payments upon liquidation, winding up and dissolution, rank:

- senior to all classes of common stock and all other equity securities issued by us the terms of which specifically provide that the equity securities will rank junior to the preferred stock (referred to as the “junior securities”);
- equally with all equity securities issued by us the terms of which specifically provide that the equity securities will rank equally with the preferred stock (referred to as the “parity securities”); and



- junior to all equity securities issued by us the terms of which specifically provide that the equity securities will rank senior to the preferred stock.

*Dividends.* Holders of the preferred stock of each series will be entitled to receive, when, as and if declared by our board of directors, cash dividends at such rates and on such dates described, if any, in the applicable prospectus supplement. Different series of preferred stock may be entitled to dividends at different rates or based on different methods of calculation. The dividend rate may be fixed or variable or both. Dividends will be payable to the holders of record as they appear on our stock books on record dates fixed by our board of directors, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Dividends on any series of the preferred stock may be cumulative or noncumulative, as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. If our board of directors does not declare a dividend payable on a dividend payment date on any series of noncumulative preferred stock, then the holders of that noncumulative preferred stock will have no right to receive a dividend for that dividend payment date, and we will have no obligation to pay the dividend accrued for that period, whether or not dividends on that series are declared payable on any future dividend payment dates. Dividends on any series of cumulative preferred stock will accrue from the date we initially issue shares of such series or such other date specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

No full dividends may be declared or paid or funds set apart for the payment of any dividends on any parity securities unless dividends have been paid or set apart for payment on the preferred stock. If full dividends are not paid, the preferred stock will share dividends pro rata with the parity securities. No dividends may be declared or paid or funds set apart for the payment of dividends on any junior securities unless full cumulative dividends for all dividend periods terminating on or prior to the date of the declaration or payment will have been paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment set apart for payment on the preferred stock.

*Rights Upon Liquidation.* If we dissolve, liquidate or wind up our affairs, either voluntarily or involuntarily, the holders of each series of preferred stock will be entitled to receive, before any payment or distribution of assets is made to holders of junior securities, liquidating distributions in the amount described in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to that series of the preferred stock, plus an amount equal to accrued and unpaid dividends and, if the series of the preferred stock is cumulative, for all dividend periods prior to that point in time. If the amounts payable with respect to the preferred stock of any series and any other parity securities are not paid in full, the holders of the preferred stock of that series and of the parity securities will share proportionately in the distribution of our assets in proportion to the full liquidation preferences to which they are entitled. After the holders of preferred stock and the parity securities are paid in full, they will have no right or claim to any of our remaining assets.

Because we are a holding company, our rights and the rights of our creditors and of our stockholders, including the holders of any shares of preferred stock then outstanding, to participate in the assets of any subsidiary upon the subsidiary's liquidation or recapitalization will be subject to the prior claims of the subsidiary's creditors except to the extent that we may ourselves be a creditor with recognized claims against the subsidiary.

*Redemption.* We may provide that a series of the preferred stock may be redeemable, in whole or in part, at our option or at the option of the holder of the stock. In addition, a series of preferred stock may be subject to mandatory redemption pursuant to a sinking fund or otherwise. The redemption provisions that may apply to a series of preferred stock, including the redemption dates and the redemption prices for that series, will be described in the prospectus supplement.

In the event of partial redemptions of preferred stock, whether by mandatory or optional redemption, our board of directors will determine the method for selecting the shares to be redeemed, which may be by lot or pro rata or by any other method determined by our board of directors to be equitable.

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On or after a redemption date, unless we default in the payment of the redemption price, dividends will cease to accrue on shares of preferred stock called for redemption. In addition, all rights of holders of the shares will terminate except for the right to receive the redemption price.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement for any series of preferred stock, if any dividends on any other series of preferred stock ranking equally as to payment of dividends and liquidation rights with such series of preferred stock are in arrears, no shares of any such series of preferred stock may be redeemed, whether by mandatory or optional redemption, unless all shares of preferred stock are redeemed, and we will not purchase any shares of such series of preferred stock. This requirement, however, will not prevent us from acquiring such shares pursuant to a purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to holders of all such shares outstanding.

*Voting Rights.* Unless otherwise described in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders of the preferred stock will have no voting rights except as otherwise required by law or in our charter.

Under regulations and interpretations adopted by the Federal Reserve Board and its staff, if the holders of any series of preferred stock are or become entitled to vote for the election of directors, such series will be deemed a class of voting securities, and a company holding 25% or more of the series, or a lesser percentage if it otherwise exercises a “controlling influence” over us, will be subject to regulation as a bank holding company under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended. In addition, at the time the series is deemed a class of voting securities, any other bank holding company will be required to obtain the prior approval of the Federal Reserve Board under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended, to acquire or retain more than 5% of that series. Any other person (other than a bank holding company), either individually or acting through or in concert with others, will be required to obtain the non-objection of the Federal Reserve Board under the Change in Bank Control Act of 1978, as amended, to acquire or retain 10% or more of that series.

*Exchangeability.* We may provide that the holders of shares of preferred stock of any series may be required at any time or at maturity to exchange those shares for our debt securities. The applicable prospectus supplement will specify the terms of any such exchange.

### **Series C Preferred Stock**

The description of the Series C Preferred Stock contained in this section is qualified in its entirety by the actual terms of the Series C Preferred Stock, as are stated in the articles supplementary to our charter for the Series C Preferred Stock, a copy of which is included as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. See “Where You Can Find More Information.” We issued the Series C Preferred Stock in connection with an underwritten public offering of 1,610,000 depositary shares, each representing a 1/40th interest in a share of the Series C Preferred Stock.

*General.* The Series C Preferred Stock is a single series of our authorized preferred stock. The Series C Preferred Stock is not convertible into, or exchangeable for, shares of any other class or series of stock or other securities of Banc of California, Inc. The Series C Preferred Stock has no stated maturity and is not subject to any sinking fund or other obligation of Banc of California, Inc. to redeem or repurchase the Series C Preferred Stock.

*Ranking.* Shares of the Series C Preferred Stock rank:

- senior to our junior stock;
- equally with each other series of parity stock, including our Series D Preferred Stock and Series E Preferred Stock and any other class or series of stock we may issue in the future that, by its terms, ranks equally to the Series C Preferred Stock in the payment of dividends and in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc.; and

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- junior to any class or series of stock we may issue in the future that ranks senior to the Series C Preferred Stock in the payment of dividends or in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc., and to all of our existing and future debt obligations.

The term “junior stock” means our common stock and any other class or series of stock of Banc of California, Inc. over which the Series C Preferred Stock has preference or priority in the payment of dividends or in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc.

The term “parity stock” means any other class or series of stock of Banc of California, Inc. that ranks on parity with the Series C Preferred Stock in the payment of dividends and in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc.

*Dividends.* Dividends on the Series C Preferred Stock are not cumulative. If our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors does not declare a dividend on the Series C Preferred Stock in respect of a dividend period, then no dividend will be deemed to have accrued for such dividend period, be payable on the applicable dividend payment date or be cumulative, and we will have no obligation to pay any dividend for that dividend period, whether or not our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors declares a dividend for any future dividend period with respect to the Series C Preferred Stock or any other class or series of our preferred stock. Holders of Series C Preferred Stock are entitled to receive, when, as and if declared by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors, out of assets legally available for the payment of dividends under Maryland law, noncumulative cash dividends based on the liquidation preference of the Series C Preferred Stock at a rate equal to 8.00% per annum for each quarterly dividend period from the original issue date of the Series C Preferred Stock to, but excluding, the redemption date of the Series C Preferred Stock, if any.

If declared by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors, we will pay dividends on the Series C Preferred Stock quarterly, in arrears, on March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15 of each year, each such date referred to as a dividend payment date, beginning on September 15, 2013. If any date on which dividends would otherwise be payable is not a business day, then the dividend payment date will be the next business day without any adjustment to the amount of dividends paid.

A dividend period is the period from and including a dividend payment date to but excluding the next dividend payment date, except that the initial dividend period commenced on and included the original issue date of the Series C Preferred Stock and ended on and included September 14, 2013. Dividends payable on the Series C Preferred Stock will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months. Dollar amounts resulting from that calculation will be rounded to the nearest cent, with one-half cent being rounded upward. Dividends on the Series C Preferred Stock will cease to accrue on the redemption date, if any, as described under “—Redemption,” unless we default in the payment of the redemption price of the shares of the Series C Preferred Stock called for redemption.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, dividends on the Series C Preferred Stock will not be declared, paid or set aside for payment to the extent such act would cause Banc of California, Inc. to fail to comply with the laws and regulations applicable thereto, including applicable capital adequacy guidelines.

So long as any share of Series C Preferred Stock remains outstanding, (1) no dividend may be declared or paid or set aside for payment and no distribution may be declared or made or set aside for payment on any junior stock (other than (i) a dividend payable solely in junior stock or (ii) any dividend in connection with the implementation of a stockholders’ rights plan, or the redemption or repurchase of any rights under any such plan); (2) no shares of junior stock may be repurchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired for consideration by us, directly or indirectly (other than (i) as a result of a reclassification of junior stock for or into other junior stock, (ii) the exchange or conversion of one share of junior stock for or into another share of junior stock, (iii) through

the use of the proceeds of a substantially contemporaneous sale of other shares of junior stock, (iv) purchases, redemptions or other acquisitions of shares of junior stock in connection with any employment contract, benefit plan or other similar arrangement with or for the benefit of employees, officers, directors or consultants, (v) purchases of shares of junior stock pursuant to a contractually binding requirement to buy junior stock existing prior to the most recently completed dividend period, including under a contractually binding stock repurchase plan, or (vi) the purchase of fractional interests in shares of junior stock pursuant to the conversion or exchange provisions of such stock or the security being converted or exchanged), nor may any monies be paid to or made available for a sinking fund for the redemption of any such securities by us; and (3) no shares of parity stock may be repurchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired for consideration by us otherwise than pursuant to pro rata offers to purchase all, or a pro rata portion, of the Series C Preferred Stock and such parity stock except by conversion into or exchange for junior stock, during a dividend period, unless, in each case, the full dividends for the preceding dividend period on all outstanding shares of the Series C Preferred Stock have been declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof has been set aside.

When dividends are not paid in full upon the shares of the Series C Preferred Stock and any parity stock, all dividends declared upon shares of the Series C Preferred Stock and any parity stock will be declared on a proportional basis so that the amount of dividends declared per share will bear to each other the same ratio that accrued dividends on the Series C Preferred Stock, and accrued dividends, including any accumulations, on any parity stock, bear to each other for the then-current dividend period on the Series C Preferred Stock.

Subject to the considerations described above, and not otherwise, dividends (payable in cash, stock or otherwise), as may be determined by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors, may be declared and paid on our common stock and any other stock ranking equally with or junior to the Series C Preferred Stock from time to time out of any assets legally available for such payment, and the holders of Series C Preferred Stock will not be entitled to participate in any such dividend.

*Redemption—Optional Redemption.* The Series C Preferred Stock is not subject to any mandatory redemption, sinking fund or other similar provisions. We may redeem the Series C Preferred Stock at our option, in whole or in part, from time to time, on any dividend payment date on or after September 15, 2018, at a redemption price equal to \$1,000 per share (equivalent to \$25.00 per related depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends, on the shares of Series C Preferred Stock called for redemption to but excluding the redemption date. Neither the holders of Series C Preferred Stock nor holders of the related depositary shares have the right to require the redemption or repurchase of the Series C Preferred Stock. Redemption of the Series C Preferred Stock is subject to our receipt of any required prior approvals from the Federal Reserve Board and to the satisfaction of any conditions set forth in the capital guidelines of the Federal Reserve Board applicable to the redemption of the Series C Preferred Stock.

*Redemption—Redemption Following a Regulatory Capital Treatment Event.* We may redeem shares of the Series C Preferred Stock at any time within 90 days following a regulatory capital treatment event, in whole but not in part, at a redemption price equal to \$1,000 per share (equivalent to \$25.00 per depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends and any accrued and unpaid dividends (whether or not declared) on the shares of Series C Preferred Stock called for redemption for the then-current dividend period to but excluding the redemption date. A regulatory capital treatment event means the good faith determination by Banc of California, Inc. that, as a result of (1) any amendment to, or change in, the laws or regulations of the United States or any political subdivision of or in the United States that is enacted or becomes effective after the initial issuance of any share of Series C Preferred Stock; (2) any proposed change in those laws or regulations that is announced after the initial issuance of any share of Series C Preferred Stock; or (3) any official administrative decision or judicial decision or administrative action or other official pronouncement interpreting or applying those laws or regulations that is announced after the initial issuance of any share of Series C Preferred Stock, there is more than an insubstantial risk that Banc of California, Inc. will not be entitled to treat the full liquidation value of the shares of Series C Preferred Stock then outstanding as “Tier 1 Capital” (or its equivalent) for purposes of the capital adequacy guidelines of Federal Reserve Board Regulation Y (or, as and if applicable, the capital adequacy

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guidelines or regulations of any successor appropriate federal banking agency), as then in effect and applicable, for as long as any share of Series C Preferred Stock is outstanding. Redemption of the Series C Preferred Stock is subject to our receipt of any required prior approvals from the Federal Reserve Board and to the satisfaction of any conditions set forth in the capital guidelines of the Federal Reserve Board applicable to the redemption of the Series C Preferred Stock.

*Liquidation Rights.* In the event we liquidate, dissolve or wind-up our business and affairs, either voluntarily or involuntarily, holders of the Series C Preferred Stock are entitled to receive a liquidating distribution of \$1,000 per share (equivalent to \$25.00 per related depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends, after satisfaction of liabilities of creditors and subject to the rights of holders of any securities ranking senior to the Series C Preferred Stock, and before we make any distribution of assets to the holders of our common stock or any other class or series of shares ranking junior to the Series C Preferred Stock. Holders of the Series C Preferred Stock will not be entitled to any other amounts from us after they have received their full liquidating distribution.

In any such distribution, if the assets of Banc of California, Inc. are not sufficient to pay the liquidation preferences plus declared and unpaid dividends in full to all holders of the Series C Preferred Stock and all holders of parity stock as to such distribution with the Series C Preferred Stock, the amounts paid to the holders of Series C Preferred Stock and any parity stock will be paid pro rata in accordance with the respective aggregate liquidating distribution owed to those holders. If the liquidation preference plus declared and unpaid dividends has been paid in full to all holders of Series C Preferred Stock and any parity stock, the holders of our junior stock shall be entitled to receive all remaining assets of Banc of California, Inc. according to their respective rights and preferences.

For purposes of this section, the merger or consolidation of Banc of California, Inc. with any other entity, including a merger or consolidation in which the holders of Series C Preferred Stock receive cash, securities or property for their shares, or the sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of the assets of Banc of California, Inc. for cash, securities or other property, will not constitute a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc..

Because we are a holding company, our rights and the rights of our creditors and our stockholders, including the holders of the Series C Preferred Stock, to participate in the assets of any of our subsidiaries upon that subsidiary's liquidation or recapitalization may be subject to the prior claims of that subsidiary's creditors, except to the extent that we are a creditor with recognized claims against the subsidiary.

*Voting Rights—General.* Except as provided below or as expressly required by applicable law, the holders of the Series C Preferred Stock will have no voting rights.

*Right to Elect Two Directors upon Nonpayment.* Whenever dividends payable on the shares of Series C Preferred Stock (whether or not declared) have not been paid in an aggregate amount equal to full dividends for six or more quarterly dividend periods, whether or not consecutive (we refer to such occurrence as a Nonpayment Event), the authorized number of our directors will automatically be increased by two. The holders of the Series C Preferred Stock will have the right, together with holders of any other series of preferred stock on which similar voting rights have been conferred and are exercisable with respect to the matter (i.e., on which dividends likewise have not been paid) (which we refer to as Voting Parity Stock), voting together as a class in proportion to their respective liquidation preferences, by a plurality of the votes cast, to elect two directors (which we refer to as Preferred Stock Directors) to fill such newly created directorships, but only if the election of any such Preferred Stock Director would not cause us to violate the corporate governance requirement of the New York Stock Exchange (or any other exchange on which our securities may be listed or traded) that listed or traded companies must have a majority of independent directors. Our board of directors shall at no time include more than two such Preferred Stock Directors, including all directors that the holders of any series of Voting Parity Stock are entitled to elect pursuant to voting rights.

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In the event that the holders of Series C Preferred Stock and any Voting Parity Stock shall be entitled to vote for the election of Preferred Stock Directors following a Nonpayment Event, such directors shall be initially elected at a special meeting called at the request of record holders owning shares representing at least 20% of the combined liquidation preference of all shares of Series C Preferred Stock and each series of Voting Parity Stock then outstanding, voting together as a single class in proportion to their respective liquidation preferences (unless the request for a special meeting is received less than 90 days before the date fixed for our next annual or special meeting of our stockholders, in which event such election shall be held only at such next annual or special meeting of stockholders), and subsequently at each annual meeting of our stockholders. Any request to call a special meeting for the initial election of Preferred Stock Directors after a Nonpayment Event must be made by written notice, signed by the requisite holders of Series C Preferred Stock and/or Voting Parity Stock, and delivered to our Corporate Secretary in person, by first class mail or in any other manner permitted by our charter or bylaws or by applicable law. If our Corporate Secretary fails to call a special meeting for the election of Preferred Stock Directors within 20 days of receiving proper notice, any holder of Series C Preferred Stock may call such a meeting at our expense solely for the election of Preferred Stock Directors. The Preferred Stock Directors elected at any such special meeting will hold office until the next annual meeting of our stockholders if such office shall not have been previously terminated as below provided.

Any Preferred Stock Director may be removed at any time without cause by the holders of record of shares of Series C Preferred Stock and Voting Parity Stock representing at least a majority of the combined liquidation preference of the Series C Preferred Stock and each series of Voting Parity Stock then outstanding, when they have the voting rights described above (voting together as a single class in proportion to their respective liquidation preferences). If any vacancy occurs among the Preferred Stock Directors, a successor will be elected by the then-remaining Preferred Stock Director or, if no Preferred Stock Director remains in office, by a plurality of the votes cast by the holders of the outstanding shares of Series C Preferred Stock and Voting Parity Stock, when they have the voting rights described above (voting together as a single class in proportion to their respective liquidation preferences). The Preferred Stock Directors will be entitled to one vote per director on any matter that shall come before our board of directors for a vote.

When dividends have been paid in full on the Series C Preferred Stock for at least four consecutive quarterly dividend periods, then the right of the holders of Series C Preferred Stock to elect Preferred Stock Directors shall terminate (but will revert upon the occurrence of any future Nonpayment Event), and, if and when any rights of the holders of Series C Preferred Stock and Voting Parity Stock to elect Preferred Stock Directors have terminated, the terms of office of all Preferred Stock Directors will immediately terminate, and the number of directors constituting our board of directors will automatically be reduced accordingly.

*Other Voting Rights.* So long as any shares of the Series C Preferred Stock remain outstanding, the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least two-thirds of all outstanding shares of the Series C Preferred Stock, voting separately as a class, shall be required to:

- amend, alter or repeal the provisions of our charter (including the articles supplementary creating the Series C Preferred Stock), or our bylaws, whether by merger, consolidation or otherwise, so as to adversely affect the powers, preferences, privileges or special rights of the Series C Preferred Stock; provided, that any of the following will not be deemed to adversely affect such powers, preferences, privileges or special rights:
  - increases in the amount of the authorized common stock or, except as provided below, preferred stock;
  - increases or decreases in the number of shares of any series of preferred stock ranking equally with or junior to the Series C Preferred Stock; or
  - the authorization, creation and issuance of other classes or series of capital stock (or securities convertible or exchangeable into such capital stock) ranking equally with or junior to the Series C Preferred Stock;

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- amend or alter our charter to authorize or increase the authorized amount of or issue shares of any class or series of senior stock, or reclassify any of our authorized capital stock into any such shares of senior stock, or issue any obligation or security convertible into or evidencing the right to purchase any such shares of senior stock; or
- consummate a binding share exchange, a reclassification involving the Series C Preferred Stock or a merger or consolidation of us with or into another entity; provided, however, that the holders of Series C Preferred Stock will have no right to vote under this provision if in each case:
  - the Series C Preferred Stock remains outstanding or, in the case of any such merger or consolidation with respect to which we are not the surviving or resulting entity, is converted into or exchanged for preferred securities of the surviving or resulting entity (or its ultimate parent); and
  - the Series C Preferred Stock remaining outstanding or the new preferred securities, as the case may be, have such powers, preferences and special rights as are not materially less favorable to the holders thereof than the powers, preferences and special rights of the Series C Preferred Stock, taken as a whole.

Except as described above, each holder of Series C Preferred Stock will have one vote per share on any matter on which holders of Series C Preferred Stock are entitled to vote. The holders of Series C Preferred Stock will have exclusive voting rights on any charter amendment that would alter only the contract rights, as expressly set forth in our charter, of the Series C Preferred Stock.

As used in this section, “senior stock” means any class or series of stock of Banc of California, Inc. ranking senior to the Series C Preferred Stock with respect to payment of dividends or the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc.. As of the date of this prospectus, there is no existing senior stock.

The voting provisions described above will not apply if, at or prior to the time when the act with respect to which such vote would otherwise be required shall be effected, all outstanding shares of Series C Preferred Stock shall have been redeemed or called for redemption and sufficient funds shall have been set aside by us for the benefit of the holders of the Series C Preferred Stock to effect such redemption.

*Preemptive and Conversion Rights.* The holders of the Series C Preferred Stock do not have any preemptive or conversion rights.

### **Series D Preferred Stock**

The description of the Series D Preferred Stock contained in this section is qualified in its entirety by the actual terms of the Series D Preferred Stock, as are stated in the articles supplementary to our charter for the Series D Preferred Stock, a copy of which is included as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. See “Where You Can Find More Information.” We issued the Series D Preferred Stock in connection with an underwritten public offering of 4,600,000 depositary shares, each representing a 1/40th interest in a share of the Series D Preferred Stock.

*General.* The Series D Preferred Stock is a single series of our authorized preferred stock. The Series D Preferred Stock is not convertible into, or exchangeable for, shares of any other class or series of stock or other securities of Banc of California, Inc. The Series D Preferred Stock has no stated maturity and is not subject to any sinking fund or other obligation of Banc of California, Inc. to redeem or repurchase the Series D Preferred Stock.

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*Ranking.* Shares of the Series D Preferred Stock rank:

- senior to our junior stock;
- equally with each other series of parity stock, including our Series C Preferred Stock and Series E Preferred Stock and any other class or series of stock we may issue in the future that, by its terms, ranks equally to the Series D Preferred Stock in the payment of dividends and in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc.; and
- junior to any class or series of stock we may issue in the future that ranks senior to the Series D Preferred Stock in the payment of dividends or in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc., and to all of our existing and future debt obligations.

The term “junior stock” means our common stock and any other class or series of stock of Banc of California, Inc. over which the Series D Preferred Stock has preference or priority in the payment of dividends or in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc.

The term “parity stock” means any other class or series of stock of Banc of California, Inc. that ranks on parity with the Series D Preferred Stock in the payment of dividends and in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc.

*Dividends.* Dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock are not cumulative. If our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors does not declare a dividend on the Series D Preferred Stock in respect of a dividend period, then no dividend will be deemed to have accrued for such dividend period, be payable on the applicable dividend payment date or be cumulative, and we will have no obligation to pay any dividend for that dividend period, whether or not our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors declares a dividend for any future dividend period with respect to the Series D Preferred Stock or any other class or series of our preferred stock. Holders of Series D Preferred Stock are entitled to receive, when, as and if declared by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors, out of assets legally available for the payment of dividends under Maryland law, noncumulative cash dividends based on the liquidation preference of the Series D Preferred Stock at a rate equal to 7.375% per annum for each quarterly dividend period from the original issue date of the Series D Preferred Stock to, but excluding, the redemption date of the Series D Preferred Stock, if any.

If declared by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors, we will pay dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock quarterly, in arrears, on March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15 of each year, each such date referred to as a dividend payment date, beginning on June 15, 2015. If any date on which dividends would otherwise be payable is not a business day, then the dividend payment date will be the next business day without any adjustment to the amount of dividends paid.

A dividend period is the period from and including a dividend payment date to but excluding the next dividend payment date, except that the initial dividend period commenced on and included the original issue date of the Series D Preferred Stock and ended on and included June 14, 2015. Dividends payable on the Series D Preferred Stock will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months. Dollar amounts resulting from that calculation will be rounded to the nearest cent, with one-half cent being rounded upward. Dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock will cease to accrue on the redemption date, if any, as described under “—Redemption,” unless we default in the payment of the redemption price of the shares of the Series D Preferred Stock called for redemption.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock will not be declared, paid or set aside for payment to the extent such act would cause Banc of California, Inc. to fail to comply with the laws and regulations applicable thereto, including applicable capital adequacy guidelines.

So long as any share of Series D Preferred Stock remains outstanding, (1) no dividend may be declared or paid or set aside for payment and no distribution may be declared or made or set aside for payment on any junior



stock (other than (i) a dividend payable solely in junior stock or (ii) any dividend in connection with the implementation of a stockholders' rights plan, or the redemption or repurchase of any rights under any such plan); (2) no shares of junior stock may be repurchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired for consideration by us, directly or indirectly (other than (i) as a result of a reclassification of junior stock for or into other junior stock, (ii) the exchange or conversion of one share of junior stock for or into another share of junior stock, (iii) through the use of the proceeds of a substantially contemporaneous sale of other shares of junior stock, (iv) purchases, redemptions or other acquisitions of shares of junior stock in connection with any employment contract, benefit plan or other similar arrangement with or for the benefit of employees, officers, directors or consultants, (v) purchases of shares of junior stock pursuant to a contractually binding requirement to buy junior stock existing prior to the most recently completed dividend period, including under a contractually binding stock repurchase plan, or (vi) the purchase of fractional interests in shares of junior stock pursuant to the conversion or exchange provisions of such stock or the security being converted or exchanged), nor may any monies be paid to or made available for a sinking fund for the redemption of any such securities by us; and (3) no shares of parity stock may be repurchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired for consideration by us otherwise than pursuant to pro rata offers to purchase all, or a pro rata portion, of the Series D Preferred Stock and such parity stock except by conversion into or exchange for junior stock, during a dividend period, unless, in each case, the full dividends for the preceding dividend period on all outstanding shares of the Series D Preferred Stock have been declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof has been set aside.

When dividends are not paid in full upon the shares of the Series D Preferred Stock and any parity stock, all dividends declared upon shares of the Series D Preferred Stock and any parity stock will be declared on a proportional basis so that the amount of dividends declared per share will bear to each other the same ratio that accrued dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock, and accrued dividends, including any accumulations, on any parity stock, bear to each other for the then-current dividend period on the Series D Preferred Stock.

Subject to the considerations described above, and not otherwise, dividends (payable in cash, stock or otherwise), as may be determined by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors, may be declared and paid on our common stock and any other stock ranking equally with or junior to the Series D Preferred Stock from time to time out of any assets legally available for such payment, and the holders of Series D Preferred Stock will not be entitled to participate in any such dividend.

*Redemption—Optional Redemption.* The Series D Preferred Stock is not subject to any mandatory redemption, sinking fund or other similar provisions. We may redeem the Series D Preferred Stock at our option, in whole or in part, from time to time, on any dividend payment date on or after June 15, 2020, at a redemption price equal to \$1,000 per share (equivalent to \$25.00 per related depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends, on the shares of Series D Preferred Stock called for redemption to but excluding the redemption date. Neither the holders of Series D Preferred Stock nor holders of the related depositary shares have the right to require the redemption or repurchase of the Series D Preferred Stock. Redemption of the Series D Preferred Stock is subject to our receipt of any required prior approvals from the Federal Reserve Board and to the satisfaction of any conditions set forth in the capital guidelines of the Federal Reserve Board applicable to the redemption of the Series D Preferred Stock.

*Redemption—Redemption Following a Regulatory Capital Treatment Event.* We may redeem shares of the Series D Preferred Stock at any time within 90 days following a regulatory capital treatment event, in whole but not in part, at a redemption price equal to \$1,000 per share (equivalent to \$25.00 per depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends, on the shares of Series D Preferred Stock called for redemption to but excluding the redemption date. A regulatory capital treatment event means the good faith determination by Banc of California, Inc. that, as a result of (1) any amendment to, or change in, the laws or regulations of the United States or any political subdivision of or in the United States that is enacted or becomes effective after the initial issuance of any share of Series D Preferred Stock; (2) any proposed change in those laws or regulations that is announced after the initial issuance of any share of Series D Preferred Stock; or (3) any official administrative decision or judicial decision or administrative action or other

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official pronouncement interpreting or applying those laws or regulations that is announced after the initial issuance of any share of Series D Preferred Stock, there is more than an insubstantial risk that Banc of California, Inc. will not be entitled to treat the full liquidation value of the shares of Series D Preferred Stock then outstanding as “Tier 1 Capital” (or its equivalent) for purposes of the capital adequacy guidelines of Federal Reserve Board Regulation Q (or, as and if applicable, the capital adequacy guidelines or regulations of any successor appropriate federal banking agency), as then in effect and applicable, for as long as any share of Series D Preferred Stock is outstanding. Redemption of the Series D Preferred Stock is subject to our receipt of any required prior approvals from the Federal Reserve Board and to the satisfaction of any conditions set forth in the capital guidelines of the Federal Reserve Board applicable to the redemption of the Series D Preferred Stock.

*Liquidation Rights.* In the event we liquidate, dissolve or wind-up our business and affairs, either voluntarily or involuntarily, holders of the Series D Preferred Stock are entitled to receive a liquidating distribution of \$1,000 per share (equivalent to \$25.00 per related depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends, after satisfaction of liabilities of creditors and subject to the rights of holders of any securities ranking senior to the Series D Preferred Stock, and before we make any distribution of assets to the holders of our common stock or any other class or series of shares ranking junior to the Series D Preferred Stock. Holders of the Series D Preferred Stock will not be entitled to any other amounts from us after they have received their full liquidating distribution.

In any such distribution, if the assets of Banc of California, Inc. are not sufficient to pay the liquidation preferences plus declared and unpaid dividends in full to all holders of the Series D Preferred Stock and all holders of parity stock as to such distribution with the Series D Preferred Stock, the amounts paid to the holders of Series D Preferred Stock and any parity stock will be paid pro rata in accordance with the respective aggregate liquidating distribution owed to those holders. If the liquidation preference plus declared and unpaid dividends has been paid in full to all holders of Series D Preferred Stock and any parity stock, the holders of our junior stock shall be entitled to receive all remaining assets of Banc of California, Inc. according to their respective rights and preferences.

For purposes of this section, the merger or consolidation of Banc of California, Inc. with any other entity, including a merger or consolidation in which the holders of Series D Preferred Stock receive cash, securities or property for their shares, or the sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of the assets of Banc of California, Inc. for cash, securities or other property, will not constitute a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc..

Because we are a holding company, our rights and the rights of our creditors and our stockholders, including the holders of the Series D Preferred Stock, to participate in the assets of any of our subsidiaries upon that subsidiary’s liquidation or recapitalization may be subject to the prior claims of that subsidiary’s creditors, except to the extent that we are a creditor with recognized claims against the subsidiary.

*Voting Rights—General.* Except as provided below or as expressly required by applicable law, the holders of the Series D Preferred Stock will have no voting rights.

*Right to Elect Two Directors upon Nonpayment.* Whenever dividends payable on the shares of Series D Preferred Stock have not been paid in an aggregate amount equal to full dividends for six or more quarterly dividend periods, whether or not consecutive (we refer to such occurrence as a Nonpayment Event), the authorized number of our directors will automatically be increased by two. The holders of the Series D Preferred Stock will have the right, together with holders of any other series of preferred stock on which similar voting rights have been conferred and are exercisable with respect to the matter (i.e., on which dividends likewise have not been paid) (which we refer to as Voting Parity Stock), voting together as a single class in proportion to their respective liquidation preferences, by a plurality of the votes cast, to elect two directors (which we refer to as Preferred Stock Directors) to fill such newly created directorships, but only if the election of any such Preferred Stock Director would not cause us to violate the corporate governance requirement of the New York Stock

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Exchange (or any other exchange on which our securities may be listed or traded) that listed or traded companies must have a majority of independent directors. Our board of directors shall at no time include more than two such Preferred Stock Directors, including all directors that the holders of any series of Voting Parity Stock are entitled to elect pursuant to voting rights.

In the event that the holders of Series D Preferred Stock and any Voting Parity Stock shall be entitled to vote for the election of Preferred Stock Directors following a Nonpayment Event, such directors shall be initially elected at a special meeting called at the request of record holders owning shares representing at least 20% of the combined liquidation preference of all shares of Series D Preferred Stock and each series of Voting Parity Stock then outstanding, voting together as a single class in proportion to their respective liquidation preferences (unless the request for a special meeting is received less than 90 days before the date fixed for our next annual or special meeting of our stockholders, in which event such election shall be held only at such next annual or special meeting of stockholders), and subsequently at each annual meeting of our stockholders. Any request to call a special meeting for the initial election of Preferred Stock Directors after a Nonpayment Event must be made by written notice, signed by the requisite holders of Series D Preferred Stock and/or Voting Parity Stock, and delivered to our Corporate Secretary in person, by first class mail or in any other manner permitted by our charter or bylaws or by applicable law. If our Corporate Secretary fails to call a special meeting for the election of Preferred Stock Directors within 20 days of receiving proper notice, any holder of Series D Preferred Stock may call such a meeting at our expense solely for the election of Preferred Stock Directors. The Preferred Stock Directors elected at any such special meeting will hold office until the next annual meeting of our stockholders if such office shall not have been previously terminated as below provided.

Any Preferred Stock Director may be removed at any time without cause by the holders of record of shares of Series D Preferred Stock and Voting Parity Stock representing at least a majority of the combined liquidation preference of the Series D Preferred Stock and each series of Voting Parity Stock then outstanding, when they have the voting rights described above (voting together as a single class in proportion to their respective liquidation preferences). If any vacancy occurs among the Preferred Stock Directors, a successor will be elected by the then-remaining Preferred Stock Director or, if no Preferred Stock Director remains in office, by a plurality of the votes cast by the holders of the outstanding shares of Series D Preferred Stock and Voting Parity Stock, when they have the voting rights described above (voting together as a single class in proportion to their respective liquidation preferences). The Preferred Stock Directors will be entitled to one vote per director on any matter that shall come before our board of directors for a vote.

When dividends have been paid in full on the Series D Preferred Stock for at least four consecutive quarterly dividend periods, then the right of the holders of Series D Preferred Stock to elect Preferred Stock Directors shall terminate (but will revert upon the occurrence of any future Nonpayment Event), and, if and when any rights of the holders of Series D Preferred Stock and Voting Parity Stock to elect Preferred Stock Directors have terminated, the terms of office of all Preferred Stock Directors will immediately terminate, and the number of directors constituting our board of directors will automatically be reduced accordingly.

*Other Voting Rights.* So long as any shares of the Series D Preferred Stock remain outstanding, the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least two-thirds of all outstanding shares of the Series D Preferred Stock, voting separately as a class, shall be required to:

- amend, alter or repeal the provisions of our charter (including the articles supplementary creating the Series D Preferred Stock), or our bylaws, whether by merger, consolidation or otherwise, so as to adversely affect the powers, preferences, privileges or special rights of the Series D Preferred Stock; provided, that any of the following will not be deemed to adversely affect such powers, preferences, privileges or special rights:
  - increases in the amount of the authorized common stock or, except as provided below, preferred stock;

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- increases or decreases in the number of shares of any series of preferred stock ranking equally with or junior to the Series D Preferred Stock; or
- the authorization, creation and issuance of other classes or series of capital stock (or securities convertible or exchangeable into such capital stock) ranking equally with or junior to the Series D Preferred Stock;
- amend or alter our charter to authorize or increase the authorized amount of or issue shares of any class or series of senior stock, or reclassify any of our authorized capital stock into any such shares of senior stock, or issue any obligation or security convertible into or evidencing the right to purchase any such shares of senior stock; or
- consummate a binding share exchange, a reclassification involving the Series D Preferred Stock or a merger or consolidation of us with or into another entity; provided, however, that the holders of Series D Preferred Stock will have no right to vote under this provision if in each case:
  - the Series D Preferred Stock remains outstanding or, in the case of any such merger or consolidation with respect to which we are not the surviving or resulting entity, is converted into or exchanged for preferred securities of the surviving or resulting entity (or its ultimate parent); and
  - the Series D Preferred Stock remaining outstanding or the new preferred securities, as the case may be, have such powers, preferences and special rights as are not materially less favorable to the holders thereof than the powers, preferences and special rights of the Series D Preferred Stock, taken as a whole.

Except as described above, each holder of Series D Preferred Stock will have one vote per share on any matter on which holders of Series D Preferred Stock are entitled to vote. The holders of Series D Preferred Stock will have exclusive voting rights on any charter amendment that would alter only the contract rights, as expressly set forth in our charter, of the Series D Preferred Stock.

As used in this section, “senior stock” means any class or series of stock of Banc of California, Inc. ranking senior to the Series D Preferred Stock with respect to payment of dividends or the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc.. As of the date of this prospectus, there is no existing senior stock.

The voting provisions described above will not apply if, at or prior to the time when the act with respect to which such vote would otherwise be required shall be effected, all outstanding shares of Series D Preferred Stock shall have been redeemed or called for redemption and sufficient funds shall have been set aside by us for the benefit of the holders of the Series D Preferred Stock to effect such redemption.

*Preemptive and Conversion Rights.* The holders of the Series D Preferred Stock do not have any preemptive or conversion rights.

### **Series E Preferred Stock**

The description of the Series E Preferred Stock contained in this section is qualified in its entirety by the actual terms of the Series E Preferred Stock, as are stated in the articles supplementary to our charter for the Series E Preferred Stock, a copy of which is included as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. See “Where You Can Find More Information.” We issued the Series E Preferred Stock in connection with an underwritten public offering of 5,000,000 depositary shares, each representing a 1/40th interest in a share of the Series E Preferred Stock.

*General.* The Series E Preferred Stock is a single series of our authorized preferred stock. The Series E Preferred Stock is not convertible into, or exchangeable for, shares of any other class or series of stock or other

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securities of Banc of California, Inc. The Series E Preferred Stock has no stated maturity and is not subject to any sinking fund or other obligation of Banc of California, Inc. to redeem or repurchase the Series E Preferred Stock.

*Ranking.* Shares of the Series E Preferred Stock rank:

- senior to our junior stock;
- equally with each other series of parity stock, including our Series C Preferred Stock and Series D Preferred Stock and any other class or series of stock we may issue in the future that, by its terms, ranks equally to the Series E Preferred Stock in the payment of dividends and in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc.; and
- junior to any class or series of stock we may issue in the future that ranks senior to the Series E Preferred Stock in the payment of dividends or in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc., and to all of our existing and future debt obligations.

The term “junior stock” means our common stock and any other class or series of stock of Banc of California, Inc. over which the Series E Preferred Stock has preference or priority in the payment of dividends or in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc.

The term “parity stock” means any other class or series of stock of Banc of California, Inc. that ranks on parity with the Series E Preferred Stock in the payment of dividends and in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc.

*Dividends.* Dividends on the Series E Preferred Stock are not cumulative. If our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors does not declare a dividend on the Series E Preferred Stock in respect of a dividend period, then no dividend will be deemed to have accrued for such dividend period, be payable on the applicable dividend payment date or be cumulative, and we will have no obligation to pay any dividend for that dividend period, whether or not our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors declares a dividend for any future dividend period with respect to the Series E Preferred Stock or any other class or series of our preferred stock. Holders of Series E Preferred Stock are entitled to receive, when, as and if declared by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors, out of assets legally available for the payment of dividends under Maryland law, noncumulative cash dividends based on the liquidation preference of the Series E Preferred Stock at a rate equal to 7.000% per annum for each quarterly dividend period from the original issue date of the Series E Preferred Stock to, but excluding, the redemption date of the Series E Preferred Stock, if any.

If declared by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors, we will pay dividends on the Series E Preferred Stock quarterly, in arrears, on March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15 of each year, each such date referred to as a dividend payment date, beginning on June 15, 2016. If any date on which dividends would otherwise be payable is not a business day, then the dividend payment date will be the next business day without any adjustment to the amount of dividends paid.

A dividend period is the period from and including a dividend payment date to but excluding the next dividend payment date, except that the initial dividend period commenced on and included the original issue date of the Series E Preferred Stock and ended on and included June 14, 2016. Dividends payable on the Series E Preferred Stock will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months. Dollar amounts resulting from that calculation will be rounded to the nearest cent, with one-half cent being rounded upward. Dividends on the Series E Preferred Stock will cease to accrue on the redemption date, if any, as described under “—Redemption,” unless we default in the payment of the redemption price of the shares of the Series E Preferred Stock called for redemption.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, dividends on the Series E Preferred Stock will not be declared, paid or set aside for payment to the extent such act would cause Banc of California, Inc. to fail to comply with the laws and regulations applicable thereto, including applicable capital adequacy guidelines.

So long as any share of Series E Preferred Stock remains outstanding, (1) no dividend may be declared or paid or set aside for payment and no distribution may be declared or made or set aside for payment on any junior stock (other than (i) a dividend payable solely in junior stock or (ii) any dividend in connection with the implementation of a stockholders' rights plan, or the redemption or repurchase of any rights under any such plan); (2) no shares of junior stock may be repurchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired for consideration by us, directly or indirectly (other than (i) as a result of a reclassification of junior stock for or into other junior stock, (ii) the exchange or conversion of one share of junior stock for or into another share of junior stock, (iii) through the use of the proceeds of a substantially contemporaneous sale of other shares of junior stock, (iv) purchases, redemptions or other acquisitions of shares of junior stock in connection with any employment contract, benefit plan or other similar arrangement with or for the benefit of employees, officers, directors or consultants, (v) purchases of shares of junior stock pursuant to a contractually binding requirement to buy junior stock existing prior to the most recently completed dividend period, including under a contractually binding stock repurchase plan, or (vi) the purchase of fractional interests in shares of junior stock pursuant to the conversion or exchange provisions of such stock or the security being converted or exchanged), nor may any monies be paid to or made available for a sinking fund for the redemption of any such securities by us; and (3) no shares of parity stock may be repurchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired for consideration by us otherwise than pursuant to pro rata offers to purchase all, or a pro rata portion, of the Series E Preferred Stock and such parity stock except by conversion into or exchange for junior stock, during a dividend period, unless, in each case, the full dividends for the preceding dividend period on all outstanding shares of the Series E Preferred Stock have been declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof has been set aside.

When dividends are not paid in full upon the shares of the Series E Preferred Stock and any parity stock, all dividends declared upon shares of the Series E Preferred Stock and any parity stock will be declared on a proportional basis so that the amount of dividends declared per share will bear to each other the same ratio that accrued dividends on the Series E Preferred Stock, and accrued dividends, including any accumulations, on any parity stock, bear to each other for the then-current dividend period on the Series E Preferred Stock.

Subject to the considerations described above, and not otherwise, dividends (payable in cash, stock or otherwise), as may be determined by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors, may be declared and paid on our common stock and any other stock ranking equally with or junior to the Series E Preferred Stock from time to time out of any assets legally available for such payment, and the holders of Series E Preferred Stock will not be entitled to participate in any such dividend.

*Redemption—Optional Redemption.* The Series E Preferred Stock is not subject to any mandatory redemption, sinking fund or other similar provisions. We may redeem the Series E Preferred Stock at our option, in whole or in part, from time to time, on any dividend payment date on or after March 15, 2021, at a redemption price equal to \$1,000 per share (equivalent to \$25.00 per related depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends, on the shares of Series E Preferred Stock called for redemption to but excluding the redemption date. Neither the holders of Series E Preferred Stock nor holders of the related depositary shares have the right to require the redemption or repurchase of the Series E Preferred Stock. Redemption of the Series E Preferred Stock is subject to our receipt of any required prior approvals from the Federal Reserve Board and to the satisfaction of any conditions set forth in the capital guidelines of the Federal Reserve Board applicable to the redemption of the Series E Preferred Stock.

*Redemption—Redemption Following a Regulatory Capital Treatment Event.* We may redeem shares of the Series E Preferred Stock at any time within 90 days following a regulatory capital treatment event, in whole but not in part, at a redemption price equal to \$1,000 per share (equivalent to \$25.00 per depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends, on the shares of Series E

Preferred Stock called for redemption, to but excluding the redemption date. A regulatory capital treatment event means the good faith determination by Banc of California, Inc. that, as a result of (1) any amendment to, or change in, the laws or regulations of the United States or any political subdivision of or in the United States that is enacted or becomes effective after the initial issuance of any share of Series E Preferred Stock; (2) any proposed change in those laws or regulations that is announced after the initial issuance of any share of Series E Preferred Stock; or (3) any official administrative decision or judicial decision or administrative action or other official pronouncement interpreting or applying those laws or regulations that is announced after the initial issuance of any share of Series E Preferred Stock, there is more than an insubstantial risk that Banc of California, Inc. will not be entitled to treat the full liquidation value of the shares of Series E Preferred Stock then outstanding as “Tier 1 Capital” (or its equivalent) for purposes of the capital adequacy guidelines of Federal Reserve Board Regulation Q (or, as and if applicable, the capital adequacy guidelines or regulations of any successor appropriate federal banking agency), as then in effect and applicable, for as long as any share of Series E Preferred Stock is outstanding. Redemption of the Series E Preferred Stock is subject to our receipt of any required prior approvals from the Federal Reserve Board and to the satisfaction of any conditions set forth in the capital guidelines of the Federal Reserve Board applicable to the redemption of the Series E Preferred Stock.

*Liquidation Rights.* In the event we liquidate, dissolve or wind-up our business and affairs, either voluntarily or involuntarily, holders of the Series E Preferred Stock are entitled to receive a liquidating distribution of \$1,000 per share (equivalent to \$25.00 per related depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends, after satisfaction of liabilities of creditors and subject to the rights of holders of any securities ranking senior to the Series E Preferred Stock, and before we make any distribution of assets to the holders of our common stock or any other class or series of shares ranking junior to the Series E Preferred Stock. Holders of the Series E Preferred Stock will not be entitled to any other amounts from us after they have received their full liquidating distribution.

In any such distribution, if the assets of Banc of California, Inc. are not sufficient to pay the liquidation preferences plus declared and unpaid dividends in full to all holders of the Series E Preferred Stock and all holders of parity stock as to such distribution with the Series E Preferred Stock, the amounts paid to the holders of Series E Preferred Stock and any parity stock will be paid pro rata in accordance with the respective aggregate liquidating distribution owed to those holders. If the liquidation preference plus declared and unpaid dividends has been paid in full to all holders of Series E Preferred Stock and any parity stock, the holders of our junior stock shall be entitled to receive all remaining assets of Banc of California, Inc. according to their respective rights and preferences.

For purposes of this section, the merger or consolidation of Banc of California, Inc. with any other entity, including a merger or consolidation in which the holders of Series E Preferred Stock receive cash, securities or property for their shares, or the sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of the assets of Banc of California, Inc. for cash, securities or other property, will not constitute a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc..

Because we are a holding company, our rights and the rights of our creditors and our stockholders, including the holders of the Series E Preferred Stock, to participate in the assets of any of our subsidiaries upon that subsidiary’s liquidation or recapitalization may be subject to the prior claims of that subsidiary’s creditors, except to the extent that we are a creditor with recognized claims against the subsidiary.

*Voting Rights—General.* Except as provided below or as expressly required by applicable law, the holders of the Series E Preferred Stock will have no voting rights.

*Right to Elect Two Directors upon Nonpayment.* Whenever dividends payable on the shares of Series E Preferred Stock have not been paid in an aggregate amount equal to full dividends for six or more quarterly dividend periods, whether or not consecutive (we refer to such occurrence as a Nonpayment Event), the authorized number of our directors will automatically be increased by two. The holders of the Series E Preferred



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Stock will have the right, together with holders of any other series of preferred stock on which similar voting rights have been conferred and are exercisable with respect to the matter (i.e., on which dividends likewise have not been paid) (which we refer to as Voting Parity Stock), voting together as a single class in proportion to their respective liquidation preferences, by a plurality of the votes cast, to elect two directors (which we refer to as Preferred Stock Directors) to fill such newly created directorships, but only if the election of any such Preferred Stock Director would not cause us to violate the corporate governance requirement of the New York Stock Exchange (or any other exchange on which our securities may be listed or traded) that listed or traded companies must have a majority of independent directors. Our board of directors shall at no time include more than two such Preferred Stock Directors, including all directors that the holders of any series of Voting Parity Stock are entitled to elect pursuant to voting rights.

In the event that the holders of Series E Preferred Stock and any Voting Parity Stock shall be entitled to vote for the election of Preferred Stock Directors following a Nonpayment Event, such directors shall be initially elected at a special meeting called at the request of record holders owning shares representing at least 20% of the combined liquidation preference of all shares of Series E Preferred Stock and each series of Voting Parity Stock then outstanding, voting together as a single class in proportion to their respective liquidation preferences (unless the request for a special meeting is received less than 90 days before the date fixed for our next annual or special meeting of our stockholders, in which event such election shall be held only at such next annual or special meeting of stockholders), and subsequently at each annual meeting of our stockholders. Any request to call a special meeting for the initial election of Preferred Stock Directors after a Nonpayment Event must be made by written notice, signed by the requisite holders of Series E Preferred Stock and/or Voting Parity Stock, and delivered to our Corporate Secretary in person, by first class mail or in any other manner permitted by our charter or bylaws or by applicable law. If our Corporate Secretary fails to call a special meeting for the election of Preferred Stock Directors within 20 days of receiving proper notice, any holder of Series E Preferred Stock may call such a meeting at our expense solely for the election of Preferred Stock Directors. The Preferred Stock Directors elected at any such special meeting will hold office until the next annual meeting of our stockholders if such office shall not have been previously terminated as below provided.

Any Preferred Stock Director may be removed at any time without cause by the holders of record of shares of Series E Preferred Stock and Voting Parity Stock representing at least a majority of the combined liquidation preference of the Series E Preferred Stock and each series of Voting Parity Stock then outstanding, when they have the voting rights described above (voting together as a single class in proportion to their respective liquidation preferences). If any vacancy occurs among the Preferred Stock Directors, a successor will be elected by the then-remaining Preferred Stock Director or, if no Preferred Stock Director remains in office, by a plurality of the votes cast by the holders of the outstanding shares of Series E Preferred Stock and Voting Parity Stock, when they have the voting rights described above (voting together as a single class in proportion to their respective liquidation preferences). The Preferred Stock Directors will be entitled to one vote per director on any matter that shall come before our board of directors for a vote.

When dividends have been paid in full on the Series E Preferred Stock for at least four consecutive quarterly dividend periods, then the right of the holders of Series E Preferred Stock to elect Preferred Stock Directors shall terminate (but will revert upon the occurrence of any future Nonpayment Event), and, if and when any rights of the holders of Series E Preferred Stock and Voting Parity Stock to elect Preferred Stock Directors have terminated, the terms of office of all Preferred Stock Directors will immediately terminate, and the number of directors constituting our board of directors will automatically be reduced accordingly.

*Other Voting Rights.* So long as any shares of the Series E Preferred Stock remain outstanding, the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least two-thirds of all outstanding shares of the Series E Preferred Stock, voting separately as a class, shall be required to:

- amend, alter or repeal the provisions of our charter (including the articles supplementary creating the Series E Preferred Stock), or our bylaws, whether by merger, consolidation or otherwise, so as to



adversely affect the powers, preferences, privileges or special rights of the Series E Preferred Stock; provided, that any of the following will not be deemed to adversely affect such powers, preferences, privileges or special rights:

- increases in the amount of the authorized common stock or, except as provided below, preferred stock;
- increases or decreases in the number of shares of any series of preferred stock ranking equally with or junior to the Series E Preferred Stock; or
- the authorization, creation and issuance of other classes or series of capital stock (or securities convertible or exchangeable into such capital stock) ranking equally with or junior to the Series E Preferred Stock;
- amend or alter our charter to authorize or increase the authorized amount of or issue shares of any class or series of senior stock, or reclassify any of our authorized capital stock into any such shares of senior stock, or issue any obligation or security convertible into or evidencing the right to purchase any such shares of senior stock; or
- consummate a binding share exchange, a reclassification involving the Series E Preferred Stock or a merger or consolidation of us with or into another entity; provided, however, that the holders of Series E Preferred Stock will have no right to vote under this provision if in each case:
  - the Series E Preferred Stock remains outstanding or, in the case of any such merger or consolidation with respect to which we are not the surviving or resulting entity, is converted into or exchanged for preferred securities of the surviving or resulting entity (or its ultimate parent); and
  - the Series E Preferred Stock remaining outstanding or the new preferred securities, as the case may be, have such powers, preferences and special rights as are not materially less favorable to the holders thereof than the powers, preferences and special rights of the Series E Preferred Stock, taken as a whole.

Except as described above, each holder of Series E Preferred Stock will have one vote per share on any matter on which holders of Series E Preferred Stock are entitled to vote. The holders of Series E Preferred Stock will have exclusive voting rights on any charter amendment that would alter only the contract rights, as expressly set forth in our charter, of the Series E Preferred Stock.

As used in this section, “senior stock” means any class or series of stock of Banc of California, Inc. ranking senior to the Series E Preferred Stock with respect to payment of dividends or the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Banc of California, Inc. As of the date of this prospectus, there is no existing senior stock.

The voting provisions described above will not apply if, at or prior to the time when the act with respect to which such vote would otherwise be required shall be effected, all outstanding shares of Series E Preferred Stock shall have been redeemed or called for redemption and sufficient funds shall have been set aside by us for the benefit of the holders of the Series E Preferred Stock to effect such redemption.

*Preemptive and Conversion Rights.* The holders of the Series E Preferred Stock do not have any preemptive or conversion rights.

#### **Anti-takeover Effects**

The provisions of our charter and bylaws summarized in the following paragraphs may have anti-takeover effects and could delay, defer, or prevent a tender offer or takeover attempt that a stockholder might consider to

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be in such stockholder's best interest, including those attempts that might result in a premium over the market price for the shares held by stockholders, and may make removal of the incumbent management and directors more difficult.

*Authorized Shares.* Our charter currently authorizes the issuance of 450,000,000 shares of common stock and 50,000,000 shares of preferred stock. Our charter authorizes our board of directors to classify or reclassify any unissued shares of capital stock from time to time into one or more classes or series of stock by setting or changing in one or more respects the preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends, qualifications or terms and conditions of redemption of such shares. We are authorized under our charter to issue additional shares of capital stock, up to the amount authorized, generally without stockholder approval. In addition, our charter provides by its terms that it may be amended by our board of directors, without a stockholder vote, to change the number of shares of capital stock authorized. The unissued shares of stock the board is authorized to issue, and the power of the board to increase the number of authorized shares without a stockholder vote, provide our board of directors with as much flexibility as possible to effect, among other transactions, financings, acquisitions and other transactions. However, these additional authorized shares may also be used by the board of directors consistent with its fiduciary duties, to deter future attempts to gain control of us. The board of directors also has sole authority to determine the terms of any one or more series of preferred or other stock, including voting rights, conversion rates, and liquidation preferences. As a result of the ability to fix voting rights for a series of preferred or other stock, the board has the power, to the extent consistent with its fiduciary duties, to issue a series of preferred or other stock to persons friendly to the incumbent management and directors in order to attempt to block a tender offer, merger or other unsolicited transaction by which a third party seeks control of us.

*Voting Limitation.* Our charter generally prohibits any stockholder that beneficially owns more than 10% of the outstanding shares of our common stock from voting shares in excess of this limit. This provision would limit the voting power of a beneficial owner of more than 10% of our outstanding shares of common stock in a proxy contest or on other matters on which such person is entitled to vote.

The Maryland General Corporation Law contains a control share acquisition statute which, in general terms, provides that where a stockholder acquires issued and outstanding shares of a corporation's voting stock (referred to as control shares) within one of several specified ranges (one-tenth or more but less than one-third, one-third or more but less than a majority, or a majority or more), approval by stockholders of the control share acquisition must be obtained before the acquiring stockholder may vote the control shares. The required stockholder vote is two-thirds of all votes entitled to be cast, excluding "interested shares," defined as shares held by the acquiring person, officers of the corporation and employees who are also directors of the corporation. A corporation may, however, opt-out of the control share statute through a charter or bylaw provision, which we have done pursuant to our charter. Accordingly, the Maryland control share acquisition statute does not apply to acquisitions of shares of our common stock. Though not anticipated, we could seek stockholder approval of an amendment to our charter to eliminate the opt-out provision; such an amendment would require a supermajority vote. See "—Amendment of Charter and Bylaws."

*Board of Directors.* Except with respect to any directors who may be elected by any class or series of preferred stock, our board of directors is divided into three classes, each of which contains approximately one-third of the members of the board. The members of each class are elected for a term of three years, with the terms of office of all members of one class expiring each year so that approximately one-third of the total number of directors is elected each year. The classification of directors, together with the provisions in our charter described below that limit the ability of stockholders to remove directors and that permit only the remaining directors to fill any vacancies on the board of directors, have the effect of making it more difficult for stockholders to change the composition of the board of directors. As a result, at least two annual meetings of stockholders will be required for the stockholders to change a majority of the directors, whether or not a change in the board of directors would be beneficial and whether or not a majority of stockholders believe that such a change would be desirable. Our charter provides that stockholders may not cumulate their votes in the election of directors.

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Our charter and bylaws provide that, subject to the rights of the holders of any series of preferred stock then outstanding, vacancies in the board of directors may be filled by a majority vote of the directors then in office, though less than a quorum, and any director so chosen shall hold office for the remainder of the full term of the class of directors in which the vacancy occurred. Our charter further provides that, subject to the rights of the holders of any series of preferred stock then outstanding, directors may be removed from office only for cause and only by the vote of the holders of at least 80% of the voting power of the outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (after giving effect to the 10% voting limitation described under “—Voting Limitation”), voting together as a single class.

The foregoing description of our board of directors does not apply with respect to directors that may be elected by the holders of any class or series of preferred stock.

*Special Meetings of Stockholders.* Our bylaws provide that subject to the rights of the holders of any class or series of preferred stock, special meetings of stockholders may be called by our President, by our Chief Executive Officer or by our board of directors by vote of a majority of the whole board (meaning the total number of directors we would have if there were no vacancies). Our bylaws also provide that a special meeting of stockholders shall be called on the written request of stockholders entitled to cast at least a majority of all votes entitled to be cast at the meeting.

*Action by Stockholders Without A Meeting.* Our bylaws provide that no action may be taken by stockholders without a meeting without the written consent of every stockholder entitled to vote on the matter.

*Business Combinations With Certain Persons.* Our charter provides that certain business combinations (for example, mergers, share exchanges, significant asset sales and significant stock issuances) involving “interested stockholders” of Banc of California, Inc. require, in addition to any vote required by law, the approval of the holders of at least 80% of the voting power of the outstanding shares of stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, voting together as a single class, unless either (i) a majority of the disinterested directors have approved the business combination or (ii) certain fair price and procedure requirements are satisfied. An “interested stockholder” generally means a person who is a greater than 10% stockholder of Banc of California, Inc. or who is an affiliate of Banc of California, Inc. and at any time within the past two years was a 10% or greater stockholder of Banc of California, Inc.

The Maryland General Corporation Law contains a business combination statute that prohibits a business combination between a corporation and an interested stockholder (one who beneficially owns 10% or more of the voting power) or any affiliate of the interested stockholder for a period of five years after the interested stockholder first becomes an interested stockholder, unless the transaction has been approved by the board of directors before the interested stockholder became an interested stockholder or the corporation has exempted itself from the statute pursuant to a charter provision. After the five-year period has elapsed, a corporation subject to the statute may not consummate a business combination with an interested stockholder unless (i) the transaction has been recommended by the board of directors and (ii) the transaction has been approved by (a) 80% of the votes entitled to be cast by outstanding shares of voting stock of the corporation, voting together as a single voting group and (b) two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by outstanding shares of voting stock of the corporation, voting together as a single voting group. This approval requirement need not be met if certain fair price and terms criteria have been satisfied. We have opted-out of the Maryland business combination statute through a provision in our charter. Though not anticipated, we could seek stockholder approval of an amendment to our charter to eliminate the opt-out provision; such an amendment would require a supermajority vote. See “—Amendment of Charter and Bylaws.”

*Amendment of Charter and Bylaws.* Our charter generally may be amended upon approval by the board of directors and the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of our Voting Common Stock. The amendment of certain provisions of our charter, however, requires the vote of the holders of at least 80% of the outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (after giving effect to the 10% voting

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limitation described under “—Voting Limitation”), voting together as a single class. These include provisions relating to: voting limitations on greater than 10% stockholders; the opt-out of the Maryland control share acquisition statute (see “—Voting Limitation” above); the number, classification, election and removal of directors; certain business combinations with greater than 10% stockholders; the opt-out of the Maryland business combination statute (see “—Business Combinations With Certain Persons” above); indemnification of directors and officers; and amendments to the charter and bylaws.

Our bylaws may be amended either by the board of directors, by a vote of a majority of the whole board, or by our stockholders, by the vote of the holders of at least 80% of the voting power of the outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, voting together as a single class.

*Advance Notice Provisions.* Our bylaws provide that we must receive written notice of any stockholder proposal for business at an annual meeting of stockholders, or any stockholder director nomination for an annual meeting of stockholders, not less than 150 days or more than 180 days before the anniversary of the preceding year’s annual meeting. If, however, the date of the current year annual meeting is advanced by more than 30 days or delayed by more than 60 days from the anniversary date of the preceding year’s annual meeting, notice of the proposal or nomination must be received by us no earlier than the 180th day prior to the annual meeting or later than the close of business on the later of the 150th day prior to the annual meeting or the 10th day following the day on which notice of the meeting is mailed or public announcement of the meeting date is first made. The notice must contain certain information specified in our bylaws.

## DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

We may offer depositary shares, which will be evidenced by depositary receipts, representing fractional interests in shares of preferred stock of any series. In connection with the issuance of any depositary shares, we will enter into a deposit agreement with a depositary, which will be named in the applicable prospectus supplement. The following briefly summarizes the material provisions of the deposit agreement and of the depositary shares and depositary receipts, other than pricing and related terms disclosed for a particular issuance in an accompanying prospectus supplement. This description is not complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, all provisions of the applicable deposit agreement, depositary shares and depositary receipts. You should read the particular terms of any depositary shares and any depositary receipts that are offered and any deposit agreement relating to a particular series of preferred stock described in more detail in a prospectus supplement. The prospectus supplement will also state whether any of the generalized provisions summarized below do not apply to the depositary shares or depositary receipts being offered.

### General

We may, at our option, elect to offer fractional shares of preferred stock, rather than full shares of preferred stock. In such event, we will issue receipts for depositary shares, each of which will represent a fraction of a share of a particular series of preferred stock.

The shares of any series of preferred stock represented by depositary shares will be deposited under a deposit agreement between us and the depositary we select. Each owner of a depositary share will be entitled to all the rights and preferences of the underlying preferred stock, including any dividend, voting, redemption, conversion and liquidation rights described in the particular prospectus supplement, in proportion to the applicable fraction of a share of preferred stock represented by such depositary share.

The depositary shares will be evidenced by depositary receipts issued pursuant to the deposit agreement. Depositary receipts will be distributed to those persons purchasing the fractional shares of preferred stock in accordance with the terms of the applicable prospectus supplement.

### Dividends and Other Distributions

The preferred stock depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions received in respect of the deposited preferred stock to the record holders of depositary shares relating to the preferred stock in proportion to the number of depositary shares owned by the holders.

In the case of a distribution other than in cash, the preferred stock depositary will distribute any property received by it other than cash to the record holders of depositary shares entitled to receive it. If the preferred stock depositary determines that it is not feasible to make such a distribution, it may, with our approval, sell the property and distribute the net proceeds from the sale to the holders of the depositary shares.

The amounts distributed in any such distribution, whether in cash or otherwise, will be reduced by any amount required to be withheld by us or the preferred stock depositary on account of taxes.

### Redemption, Conversion and Exchange of Preferred Stock

If a series of preferred stock represented by depositary shares is to be redeemed, the depositary shares will be redeemed from the proceeds received by the preferred stock depositary resulting from the redemption, in whole or in part, of that series of preferred stock. The depositary shares will be redeemed by the preferred stock depositary at a price per depositary share equal to the applicable fraction of the redemption price per share payable in respect of the shares of preferred stock redeemed.

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Whenever we redeem shares of preferred stock held by the preferred stock depositary, the preferred stock depositary will redeem as of the same date the number of depositary shares representing shares of preferred stock redeemed. If fewer than all the depositary shares are to be redeemed, the depositary shares to be redeemed will be selected by the preferred stock depositary by lot or ratably or by any other equitable method, in each case as we may determine.

If a series of preferred stock represented by depositary shares is to be converted or exchanged, the holder of depositary receipts representing the shares of preferred stock being converted or exchanged will have the right or obligation to convert or exchange the depositary shares evidenced by the depositary receipts.

After the redemption, conversion or exchange date, the depositary shares called for redemption, conversion or exchange will no longer be outstanding. When the depositary shares are no longer outstanding, all rights of the holders will end, except the right to receive money, securities or other property payable upon redemption, conversion or exchange.

### **Voting Deposited Preferred Stock**

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which the holders of any series of deposited preferred stock are entitled to vote, the preferred stock depositary will mail the information contained in the notice of meeting to the record holders of the depositary receipts evidencing the depositary shares relating to that series of preferred stock. Each record holder of the depositary receipts on the record date will be entitled to instruct the preferred stock depositary to vote the amount of the preferred stock represented by the holder's depositary shares. The preferred stock depositary will try, if practical, to vote the amount of such series of preferred stock represented by such depositary shares in accordance with such instructions.

We will agree to take all reasonable actions that the preferred stock depositary determines are necessary to enable the preferred stock depositary to vote as instructed. The preferred stock depositary will abstain from voting shares of any series of preferred stock held by it for which it does not receive specific instructions from the holders of depositary shares representing those preferred shares.

### **Amendment and Termination of the Deposit Agreement**

The form of depositary receipt evidencing the depositary shares and any provision of the deposit agreement may at any time be amended by agreement between us and the preferred stock depositary. However, any amendment that materially and adversely alters any existing right of the holders of depositary receipts will not be effective unless the amendment has been approved by the holders of depositary receipts representing at least a majority of the depositary shares then outstanding. Every holder of an outstanding depositary receipt at the time any such amendment becomes effective will be deemed, by continuing to hold the depositary receipt, to consent and agree to the amendment and to be bound by the deposit agreement, as amended.

We may direct the preferred stock depositary to terminate the deposit agreement at any time by mailing notice of termination to the record holders of the depositary receipts then outstanding at least 30 days prior to the date fixed for termination. Upon termination, the preferred stock depositary will deliver to each holder of depositary receipts, upon surrender of those receipts, such number of whole shares of the series of preferred stock represented by the depositary shares together with cash in lieu of any fractional shares, to the extent we have deposited cash for payment in lieu of fractional shares with the preferred stock depositary. In addition, the deposit agreement will automatically terminate if:

- all of the shares of the preferred stock deposited with the preferred stock depositary have been withdrawn, redeemed, converted or exchanged; or
- there has been a final distribution in respect of the deposited preferred stock in connection with our liquidation, dissolution or winding up.

### **Charges of Preferred Stock Depositary; Taxes and Other Governmental Charges**

We will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of the depositary arrangements. We also will pay charges of the preferred stock depositary in connection with the initial deposit of preferred stock and any redemption of preferred stock. Holders of depositary receipts will pay other transfer and other taxes and governmental charges and such other charges, including a fee for the withdrawal of shares of preferred stock upon surrender of depositary receipts, as are expressly provided in the deposit agreement to be for their accounts.

Prospective purchasers of depositary shares should be aware that special tax, accounting and other issues may be applicable to instruments such as depositary shares.

### **Resignation and Removal of Depositary**

The preferred stock depositary may resign at any time by delivering to us notice of its intent to do so, and we may at any time remove the preferred stock depositary, any such resignation or removal to take effect upon the appointment of a successor preferred stock depositary meeting the requirements specified in the deposit agreement and its acceptance of such appointment.

### **Miscellaneous**

The preferred stock depositary will forward all reports and communications from us that are delivered to the preferred stock depositary and that we are required to furnish to the holders of the deposited preferred stock.

Neither we nor the preferred stock depositary will be liable if we are or the preferred stock depositary is prevented or delayed by law or any circumstances beyond our or its control in performing our or its obligations under the deposit agreement. Our obligations and the obligations of the preferred stock depositary under the deposit agreement will be limited to performance in good faith of the duties under the deposit agreement and we and the preferred stock depositary will not be obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding in respect of any depositary shares, depositary receipts or shares of preferred stock unless satisfactory indemnity is furnished. We and the preferred stock depositary may rely upon written advice of counsel or accountants, or upon information provided by holders of depositary receipts or other persons believed to be competent and on documents believed to be genuine.

## DESCRIPTION OF PURCHASE CONTRACTS

We may issue purchase contracts, including purchase contracts issued as part of a unit with one or more other securities, for the purchase or sale of our debt securities, preferred stock, depositary shares or common stock.

The price of our debt securities, or the price per share of our common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares, as applicable, may be fixed at the time the purchase contracts are issued or may be determined by reference to a specific formula contained in the purchase contracts. We may issue purchase contracts in such amounts and in as many distinct series as we wish.

The applicable prospectus supplement may contain, where applicable, the following information about the purchase contracts issued under it:

- whether the purchase contracts obligate the holder to purchase or sell, or both purchase and sell, our debt securities, common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares, as applicable, and the nature and amount of each of those securities, or method of determining those amounts;
- whether the purchase contracts are to be prepaid or not;
- whether the purchase contracts are to be settled by delivery, or by reference or linkage to the value, performance or level of our common stock or preferred stock;
- any acceleration, cancellation, termination or other provisions relating to the settlement of the purchase contracts;
- United States federal income tax considerations relevant to the purchase contracts; and
- whether the purchase contracts will be issued in fully registered or global form.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any purchase contracts. The preceding description and any description of purchase contracts in the applicable prospectus supplement does not purport to be complete and is subject to and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the purchase contract agreement and, if applicable, collateral arrangements and depositary arrangements relating to such purchase contracts.



## DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

We may issue warrants for the purchase of our debt securities, or shares of our common stock or preferred stock or depositary shares. Warrants may be issued independently or together with any of our debt securities, shares of common stock or preferred stock or depositary shares offered by any prospectus supplement and may be attached to or separate from the debt securities, shares of common stock or preferred stock or depositary shares. The warrants may be issued under warrant agreements to be entered into between Banc of California, Inc. and a warrant agent, as is named in the prospectus supplement relating to the particular issue of warrants. The warrant agent will act solely as an agent of Banc of California, Inc. in connection with the warrants and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders of warrants or beneficial owners of warrants.

The following outlines some of the anticipated general terms and conditions of the warrants. Further terms of the warrants and any applicable warrant agreement will be stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. The following description and any description of the warrants in a prospectus supplement is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the actual terms and provisions of the warrants and any applicable warrant agreement.

### General

If warrants are offered, the prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the warrants, including the following:

- the offering price;
- the designation, aggregate principal amount and terms of the debt securities purchasable upon exercise of any debt warrants and the price at which such debt securities may be purchased upon such exercise;
- the number of shares purchasable upon exercise of any common stock warrants and the price at which such shares of common stock may be purchased upon such exercise;
- the designation, number of shares and terms of the preferred stock purchasable upon exercise of any preferred stock warrants and the price at which such shares of preferred stock may be purchased upon such exercise;
- if applicable, the date on and after which the warrants and the related debt securities, common stock or preferred stock will be separately transferable;
- the date on which the right to exercise the warrants shall commence and the date on which such right shall expire;
- whether the warrants will be issued in registered or bearer form;
- a discussion of certain federal income tax, accounting and other special considerations, procedures and limitations relating to the warrants; and
- any other terms of the warrants.

If in registered form, warrants may be presented for registration of transfer, and may be exercised at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the prospectus supplement. Before the exercise of their warrants, holders of warrants will not have any of the rights of holders of the securities purchasable upon such exercise.

### Exercise of Warrants

Each warrant will entitle the holder to purchase such principal amount of debt securities or such number of shares of common stock or preferred stock or depositary shares at such exercise price as shall in each case be set

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forth in, or can be calculated according to information contained in, the prospectus supplement relating to the warrant. Warrants may be exercised at such times as are set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to such warrants. After the close of business on the expiration date of the warrants, or such later date to which such expiration date may be extended by Banc of California, Inc., unexercised warrants will become void.

Subject to any restrictions and additional requirements that may be set forth in the prospectus supplement, warrants may be exercised by delivery to the warrant agent of the certificate evidencing such warrants properly completed and duly executed and of payment as provided in the prospectus supplement of the amount required to purchase the debt securities or shares of common stock or preferred stock or depositary shares purchasable upon such exercise. The exercise price will be the price applicable on the date of payment in full, as set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the warrants. Upon receipt of such payment and the certificate representing the warrants to be exercised, properly completed and duly executed at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the prospectus supplement, we will, as soon as practicable, issue and deliver the debt securities or shares of common stock or preferred stock or depositary shares purchasable upon such exercise. If fewer than all of the warrants represented by such certificate are exercised, a new certificate will be issued for the remaining amount of warrants.

### **Additional Provisions**

The exercise price payable and the number of shares of common stock or preferred stock or depositary shares purchasable upon the exercise of each stock warrant will be subject to adjustment in certain events, including:

- the issuance of the stock dividend to holders of common stock or preferred stock, respectively;
- a combination, subdivision or reclassification of common stock or preferred stock, respectively; or
- any other event described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

In lieu of adjusting the number of shares of common stock or preferred stock or depositary shares purchasable upon exercise of each stock warrant, we may elect to adjust the number of stock warrants. We also may, at our option, reduce the exercise price at any time. No fractional shares will be issued upon exercise of stock warrants, but we will pay the cash value of any fractional shares otherwise issuable. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in case of any consolidation, merger, or sale or conveyance of the property of Banc of California, Inc. as an entirety or substantially as an entirety, the holder of each outstanding stock warrant will have the right upon the exercise thereof to the kind and amount of shares of stock and other securities and property, including cash, receivable by a holder of the number of shares of common stock or preferred stock or depositary shares into which such stock warrants were exercisable immediately prior thereto.

## DESCRIPTION OF RIGHTS

This section describes the general terms of the rights to purchase common stock or other securities that we may offer using this prospectus. Further terms of the rights will be stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. The following description and any description of the rights in a prospectus supplement may not be complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the terms of any agreement relating to the rights.

Rights may be issued independently or together with any other security and may or may not be transferable. As part of the rights offering, we may enter into a standby underwriting or other arrangement under which the underwriters or any other person would purchase any securities that are not purchased in such rights offering. The prospectus supplement relating to any rights we offer will describe the specific terms of the offering and the rights, including:

- the record date for determining security holders entitled to the rights distribution;
- the number of rights issued and the number of shares of common stock or other securities that may be purchased upon exercise of the rights;
- the exercise price of the rights;
- the steps required to exercise the rights;
- the date on which the rights will become effective and the date on which the rights will expire;
- whether the rights will include oversubscription rights, so that the holder may purchase more securities if other holders do not purchase their full allotments;
- whether we intend to sell the shares of common stock or other securities that are not purchased in the offering to an underwriter or other purchaser under a contractual standby commitment or other arrangement;
- our ability to withdraw or terminate the rights offering prior to the expiration date of the rights;
- any material U.S. Federal income tax consequences.

Prior to the exercise of their rights, holders of rights will not have any of the rights of holders of the securities purchasable upon the exercise of the rights, and will not be entitled to, among other things, vote or receive dividend payments or other distributions on the securities purchasable upon exercise.

## DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

Units will consist of any combination of one or more of the other securities described in this prospectus. The applicable prospectus supplement or supplements will also describe:

- the designation and the terms of the units and of any combination of the securities constituting the units, including whether and under what circumstances those securities may be held or traded separately;
- any additional terms of the agreement governing the units;
- any additional provisions for the issuance, payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units or of the securities constituting the units;
- any applicable United States federal income tax consequences; and
- whether the units will be issued in fully registered form.

The terms and conditions described under “Description of Debt Securities,” “Description of Warrants,” and “Description of Common Stock and Preferred Stock” will apply to each unit that includes such securities and to the securities included in each unit, unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

We will issue the units under one or more unit agreements to be entered into between us and a unit agent. We may issue units in one or more series, which will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

## DESCRIPTION OF GLOBAL SECURITIES

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may issue the securities in the form of one or more fully registered global securities that will be deposited with a depository or its nominee identified in the applicable prospectus supplement and registered in the name of that depository or its nominee. In those cases, one or more registered global securities will be issued in a denomination or aggregate denominations equal to the portion of the aggregate principal or face amount of the securities to be represented by registered global securities. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole for securities in definitive registered form, a registered global security may not be transferred except as a whole by and among the depository for the registered global security, the nominees of the depository or any successors of the depository or those nominees.

If not described below, any specific terms of the depository arrangement with respect to any securities to be represented by a registered global security will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to those securities. We anticipate that the following provisions will apply to all depository arrangements.

Ownership of beneficial interests in a registered global security will be limited to persons, called participants, that have accounts with the depository or persons that may hold interests through participants. Upon the issuance of a registered global security, the depository will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the participants' accounts with the respective principal or face amounts of the securities beneficially owned by the participants. Any dealers, underwriters or agents participating in the distribution of the securities will designate the accounts to be credited.

Ownership of beneficial interests in a registered global security will be shown on, and the transfer of ownership interests will be effected only through, records maintained by the depository, with respect to interests of participants, and on the records of participants, with respect to interests of persons holding through participants. The laws of some states may require that some purchasers of securities take physical delivery of these securities in definitive form. These laws may impair your ability to own, transfer or pledge beneficial interests in registered global securities.

So long as the depository, or its nominee, is the registered owner of a registered global security, that depository or its nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner or holder of the securities represented by the registered global security for all purposes. Except as described below, owners of beneficial interests in a registered global security will not be entitled to have the securities represented by the registered global security registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of the securities in definitive form and will not be considered the owners or holders of the securities. Accordingly, each person owning a beneficial interest in a registered global security must rely on the procedures of the depository for that registered global security and, if that person is not a participant, on the procedures of the participant through which the person owns its interest, to exercise any rights of a holder under the applicable indenture, warrant agreement or unit agreement. We understand that under existing industry practices, if we request any action of holders or if an owner of a beneficial interest in a registered global security desires to give or take any action that a holder is entitled to give or take, the depository for the registered global security would authorize the participants holding the relevant beneficial interests to give or take that action, and the participants would authorize beneficial owners owning through them to give or take that action or would otherwise act upon the instructions of beneficial owners holding through them.

Payments of principal of, and premium, if any, and interest on, debt securities, and any payments to holders with respect to other securities represented by a registered global security registered in the name of a depository or its nominee will be made to the depository or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered owner of the registered global security. None of Banc of California, Inc., the trustees, the warrant agents, the unit agents or any preferred stock depository, as applicable, will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or the payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests in the registered global security or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to those beneficial ownership interests.

We expect that the depository for any of the securities represented by a registered global security, upon receipt of any payment of principal, premium, interest or other distribution of underlying securities or other property to holders on that registered global security, will immediately credit participants' accounts in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in that registered global security as shown on the records of the depository. We also expect that payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in a registered global security held through participants will be governed by standing customer instructions and customary practices, as is now the case with the securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of those participants.

If the depository for any of these securities represented by a registered global security is at any time unwilling or unable to continue as depository or ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act, and a successor depository registered as a clearing agency under the Exchange Act is not appointed by us within 90 days, we will issue securities in definitive form in exchange for the registered global security that had been held by the depository. In addition, under the terms of the indenture for any debt securities, we may at any time and in our sole discretion decide not to have any of such securities represented by one or more registered global securities. We understand, however, that, under current industry practices, the depository would notify its participants of our request, but will only withdraw beneficial interests from a global security at the request of each participant. We would issue definitive certificates in exchange for any such interests withdrawn. Any securities issued in definitive form in exchange for a registered global security will be registered in the name or names that the depository gives to the applicable trustee, warrant agent, unit agent or other relevant agent of ours or theirs. It is expected that the depository's instructions will be based upon directions received by the depository from participants with respect to ownership of beneficial interests in the registered global security that had been held by the depository.

## **PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**

We and/or selling security holders, if applicable, may sell the securities in several ways, including:

- through underwriters or dealers;
- through agents;
- in "at the market" offerings, within the meaning of Rule 415(a)(4) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), to or through a market maker or into an existing trading market on an exchange or otherwise;
- directly to purchasers or to a single purchaser;
- directly to our stockholders; or
- through a combination of any of these methods of sale.

The prospectus supplement with respect to a particular offering of securities will set forth the terms of the offering of such securities, including the name or names of any underwriters, dealers or agents, the purchase price of such securities, the proceeds to us from such sale, any underwriting discounts and other items constituting underwriters' compensation, any initial public offering price, any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers or agents and any securities exchanges on which such securities may be listed.

If we and/or selling security holders, if applicable, use underwriters in the sale, the securities will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The securities may be either offered to the public through underwriting syndicates represented by managing underwriters or by underwriters without a syndicate. Any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

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Only underwriters named in a prospectus supplement will be deemed to be underwriters in connection with the securities described in such prospectus supplement. Firms not so named will have no direct or indirect participation in the underwriting of such securities, although such a firm may participate in the distribution of such securities under circumstances entitling it to a dealer's commission. We anticipate that any underwriting agreement pertaining to any such securities will:

- entitle the underwriters to indemnification by us against certain civil liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribution with respect to payments which the underwriters may be required to make in respect of such liabilities;
- provide that the obligations of the underwriters will be subject to certain conditions precedent; and
- provide that the underwriters generally will be obligated to purchase all such securities if any are purchased.

Securities also may be offered directly by us and/or selling security holders or through agents designated by us from time to time. Any such agent will be named, and the terms of any such agency (including any commissions payable by us to any such agent) will be set forth, in the prospectus supplement relating to such securities. Unless otherwise indicated in such prospectus supplement, any such agent will act on a best efforts basis for the period of its appointment. Agents named in a prospectus supplement may be deemed to be underwriters (within the meaning of the Securities Act) of the securities described in such prospectus supplement and, under agreements which may be entered into with us, may be entitled to indemnification by us against certain civil liabilities under the Act or to contribution with respect to payments which the agents may be required to make in respect of such liabilities.

We may enter into derivative or other hedging transactions with financial institutions. These financial institutions may in turn engage in sales of common shares to hedge their position, deliver this prospectus in connection with some or all of those sales and use the shares covered by this prospectus to close out any short position created in connection with those sales. We may also sell common shares short using this prospectus and deliver common shares covered by this prospectus to close out such short positions, or loan or pledge common shares to financial institutions that in turn may sell the common shares using this prospectus. We may pledge or grant a security interest in some or all of the common shares covered by this prospectus to support a derivative or hedging position or other obligations and, if we default in the performance of our obligations, the pledgees or secured parties may offer and sell the common shares from time to time pursuant to this prospectus.

Underwriters and agents may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us and our subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business.

If so indicated in a prospectus supplement, we will authorize underwriters, dealers or other agents of ours to solicit offers by certain specified entities to purchase securities from us pursuant to contracts providing for payment and delivery at a future date. The obligations of any purchaser under any such contract will not be subject to any conditions except those described in such prospectus supplement. Such prospectus supplement will set forth the commissions payable for solicitations of such contracts.

Underwriters and agents may from time to time purchase and sell securities in the secondary market, but are not obligated to do so, and there can be no assurance that there will be a secondary market for the securities or liquidity in the secondary market if one develops. From time to time, underwriters and agents may make a market in the securities but are not obligated to do so and may cease to do so at any time.

One or more firms, referred to as "remarketing firms," may also offer or sell the securities, if the prospectus supplement so indicates, in connection with a remarketing arrangement upon their purchase. Remarketing firms will act as principals for their own accounts or as agents for us. These remarketing firms will offer or sell the securities in accordance with a redemption or repayment pursuant to the terms of the securities. The prospectus supplement will identify any remarketing firm and the terms of its agreement, if any, with us and will describe

the remarketing firm's compensation. Remarketing firms may be deemed to be underwriters in connection with the securities they remarket. Remarketing firms may be entitled under agreements that may be entered into with us to indemnification by us against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, as amended, and may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business.

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

In connection with particular offerings of our securities in the future, and unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the validity of the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Silver, Freedman, Taff & Tiernan LLP, Washington, D.C. Additional legal matters may be passed on for us, or any underwriters, dealers or agents, by counsel that we will name in the applicable prospectus supplement.

## **EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of Banc of California, Inc. as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2015, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.



**PART II****INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS****Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.**

The following table sets forth the expenses, other than underwriting compensation, expected to be incurred in connection with the registration and sale of the securities covered by this Registration Statement.

|                                          |    |
|------------------------------------------|----|
| SEC registration fee                     | *  |
| Blue Sky fees and expenses               | ** |
| Rating agency fees                       | ** |
| Legal fees and expenses                  | ** |
| Accounting fees and expenses             | ** |
| Trustee fees and expenses                | ** |
| Printing and engraving fees and expenses | ** |
| Miscellaneous                            | ** |
| Total                                    | ** |

\* To be deferred pursuant to Rule 456(b) under the Securities Act and calculated in connection with the offering of securities under this Registration Statement pursuant to Rule 457(r) under the Securities Act

\*\* These fees are calculated based on the number of issuances and amount of securities offered and accordingly cannot be estimated at this time.

**Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers**

Section 2-405.2 of the Maryland General Corporation Law permits a Maryland corporation to include in its charter a provision limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the corporation or its stockholders for money damages except: (1) to the extent it is proven that the director or officer actually received an improper benefit or profit, for the amount of the improper benefit or profit; or (2) to the extent that a judgment or other final adjudication adverse to the director or officer is entered in a proceeding based on a finding that the director's or officer's action or failure to act was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty and was material to the cause of action adjudicated in the proceeding. The Registrant's charter contains such a provision, thereby limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law.

Section 2-418 of the Maryland General Corporation Law permits a Maryland corporation to indemnify a director or officer who is made a party to any proceeding by reason of service in that capacity against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements and reasonable expenses actually incurred unless it is established that: (1) the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and was committed in bad faith or was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty; (2) the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit; or (3) in the case of a criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful. The Maryland General Corporation Law provides that where a director or officer is a defendant in a proceeding by or in the right of the corporation, the director or officer may not be indemnified if he or she is found liable to the corporation. The Maryland General Corporation Law also provides that a director or officer may not be indemnified in respect of any proceeding alleging improper personal benefit in which he or she was found liable on the grounds that personal benefit was improperly received. A director or officer found liable in a proceeding by or in the right of the corporation or in a proceeding alleging improper personal benefit may petition a court to nevertheless order indemnification of expenses if the court determines that the director or officer is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnification in view of all the relevant circumstances.

Section 2-418 of the Maryland General Corporation Law provides that unless limited by the charter of a Maryland corporation, a director or an officer who is successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any

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proceeding must be indemnified against reasonable expenses. Section 2-418 also provides that a Maryland corporation may advance reasonable expenses to a director or an officer upon the corporation's receipt of (a) a written affirmation by the director or officer of his or her good faith belief that he or she has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification by the corporation and (b) a written undertaking by the director or officer or on his or her behalf to repay the amount paid or reimbursed by the corporation if it is ultimately determined that the standard of conduct was not met.

The Registrant's charter provides for indemnification of directors and officers to the maximum extent permitted by the Maryland General Corporation Law. Additionally, the Registrant has entered into indemnification agreements with certain officers and directors of the Registrant, which supplement the indemnification provisions of the Registrant's charter by contractually obligating the Registrant to indemnify, and to advance expenses to, such persons to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law.

Under a directors' and officers' liability insurance policy, directors and officers of the Registrant are insured against certain liabilities.

### **Item 16. Exhibits**

| <u>EXHIBIT<br/>NO.</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.1                    | Form of Underwriting Agreement for any offering of securities <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 4.1                    | Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant (filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on March 28, 2002 and incorporated herein by reference)                                                                                                          |
| 4.2                    | Articles Supplementary to the Charter of the Registrant, containing the terms of the Registrant's Class B Non-Voting Common Stock (filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on November 16, 2010 and incorporated herein by reference)                       |
| 4.3                    | Articles of Amendment to the Charter of the Registrant increasing the authorized capital stock of the Registrant (filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on March 4, 2011 and incorporated herein by reference)                                              |
| 4.4                    | Articles of Amendment to Articles Supplementary to the Charter of the Registrant containing the terms of the Registrant's Class B Non-Voting Common Stock (filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 12, 2011 and incorporated herein by reference)      |
| 4.5                    | Articles Supplementary to the Charter of the Registrant containing the terms of the Registrant's 8.00% Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series C (filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on June 12, 2013 and incorporated herein by reference)     |
| 4.6                    | Articles of Amendment to the Charter of the Registrant changing the Registrant's name (filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on July 17, 2013 and incorporated herein by reference)                                                                         |
| 4.7                    | Articles of Amendment to the Charter of the Registrant increasing the authorized capital stock of the Registrant (filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on November 22, 2013 and incorporated herein by reference)                                          |
| 4.8                    | Articles Supplementary to the Charter of the Registrant containing the terms of the Registrant's 7.375% Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series D (filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 8, 2015 and incorporated herein by reference)    |
| 4.9                    | Articles Supplementary to the Charter of the Registrant containing the terms of the Registrant's 7.000% Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series E (filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 8, 2016 and incorporated herein by reference) |

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| <u>EXHIBIT<br/>NO.</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u>                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4.10                   | Bylaws of the Registrant (filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on July 1, 2016 and incorporated herein by reference)                    |
| 4.11                   | Form of Senior Indenture (filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed on November 22, 2013 and incorporated herein by reference)       |
| 4.12                   | Form of Subordinated Indenture (filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed on November 22, 2013 and incorporated herein by reference) |
| 4.13                   | Form of Senior Debt Securities <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                                               |
| 4.14                   | Form of Subordinated Debt Securities <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                                         |
| 4.15                   | Form of Articles Supplementary for Preferred Stock <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                           |
| 4.16                   | Form of Deposit Agreement for Depositary Shares <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                              |
| 4.17                   | Form of Purchase Contract <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                                                    |
| 4.18                   | Form of Warrant Agreement <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                                                    |
| 4.19                   | Form of Unit Agreement <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                                                       |
| 5.1                    | Opinion of Silver, Freedman, Taff & Tiernan LLP as to the legality of the securities being registered                                                                       |
| 12.1                   | Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Earnings to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends                                                     |
| 23.1                   | Consent of Silver, Freedman, Taff & Tiernan LLP (see Exhibit 5.1)                                                                                                           |
| 23.2                   | Consent of KPMG LLP                                                                                                                                                         |
| 24.1                   | Powers of attorney (set forth on signature page)                                                                                                                            |
| 25.1                   | Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility of Trustee under the Senior Indenture <sup>(2)</sup>                                                                                      |
| 25.2                   | Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility of Trustee under the Subordinated Indenture <sup>(2)</sup>                                                                                |

(1) To be filed as an exhibit to a document to be incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement.

(2) To be incorporated by reference to a filing made in accordance with Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended.

(b) Financial Statement Schedules:

Not Applicable.

### **Item 17. Undertakings.**

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from

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the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the “Calculation of Registration Fee” table in the effective registration statement; and

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

*provided, however*, that the undertakings set forth in paragraphs (1)(i), (1)(ii) and (1)(iii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement;

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof;

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering;

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(i) Each prospectus filed by the Registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(ii) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof. *Provided, however*, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

(5) That, for the purpose of determining any liability of the Registrant under the Securities Act to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities:

The Registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the Registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the Registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the Registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

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- (ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the Registrant or used or referred to by the Registrant;
- (iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the Registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the Registrant; and
- (iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the Registrant to the purchaser.

(b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for the purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in this registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof;

(c) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes to file an application for the purpose of determining the eligibility of the trustee to act under subsection (a) of Section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the Commission under Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act.

(d) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized in the City of Irvine, State of California, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2016.

### BANC OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

By: /s/ Steven A. Sugarman  
Steven A. Sugarman  
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer  
(Duly Authorized Representative)

## POWER OF ATTORNEY

Each person whose signature appears below appoints Steven A. Sugarman and James J. McKinney, or either of them, as his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and all other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or would do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in fact and agent may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

/s/ Steven A. Sugarman  
Steven A. Sugarman  
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: August 3, 2016

/s/ Halle J. Benett  
Halle J. Benett  
Director

Date: August 3, 2016

/s/ Eric L. Holoman  
Eric L. Holoman  
Director

Date: August 3, 2016

/s/ Jonah F. Schnel  
Jonah F. Schnel  
Director

Date: August 3, 2016

/s/ James J. McKinney  
James J. McKinney  
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

Date: August 3, 2016

/s/ Chad T. Brownstein  
Chad T. Brownstein  
Director

Date: August 3, 2016

/s/ Jeffrey Karish  
Jeffrey Karish  
Director

Date: August 3, 2016

/s/ Robert D. Sznnewajs  
Robert D. Sznnewajs  
Director

Date: August 3, 2016

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

| <u>EXHIBIT<br/>NO.</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| 4.14                   | Form of Subordinated Debt Securities <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 4.15                   | Form of Articles Supplementary for Preferred Stock <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 4.16                   | Form of Deposit Agreement for Depositary Shares <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 4.17                   | Form of Purchase Contract <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 4.18                   | Form of Warrant Agreement <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 4.19                   | Form of Unit Agreement <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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| <u>EXHIBIT<br/>NO.</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u>                                                                                                      |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5.1                    | Opinion of Silver, Freedman, Taff & Tiernan LLP as to the legality of the securities being registered                   |
| 12.1                   | Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Earnings to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends |
| 23.1                   | Consent of Silver, Freedman, Taff & Tiernan LLP (see Exhibit 5.1)                                                       |
| 23.2                   | Consent of KPMG LLP                                                                                                     |
| 24.1                   | Powers of attorney (set forth on signature page)                                                                        |
| 25.1                   | Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility of Trustee under the Senior Indenture <sup>(2)</sup>                                  |
| 25.2                   | Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility of Trustee under the Subordinated Indenture <sup>(2)</sup>                            |

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(1) To be filed as an exhibit to a document to be incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement.

(2) To be incorporated by reference to a filing made in accordance with Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended.



**Exhibit 5.1**

Law Offices  
Silver, Freedman, Taff & Tiernan LLP  
A Limited Liability Partnership Including Professional Corporations  
3299 K STREET, N.W., SUITE 100  
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August 4, 2016

Banc of California, Inc.  
18500 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 1100  
Irvine, California 92612

Re: Registration Statement on Form S-3

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as special counsel to Banc of California, Inc., a Maryland corporation (the “Company”), in connection with the preparation of a registration statement on Form S-3 (the “Registration Statement”) being filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) relating to the offering and sale from time to time, pursuant to Rule 415 of the General Rules and Regulations of the Commission promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), of the following securities of the Company: (i) senior debt securities (the “Senior Debt Securities”) and subordinated debt securities (the “Subordinated Debt Securities,” and together with the Senior Debt Securities, the “Debt Securities”); (ii) preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the “Preferred Stock”); (iii) depositary shares representing a fraction of a share of a particular class or series of Preferred Stock (the “Depositary Shares”); (iv) common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the “Common Stock”); (v) contracts to purchase or sell Debt Securities, Common Stock, Preferred Stock or Depositary Shares (the “Purchase Contracts”); (vi) units, to be comprised of two or more of the Securities, as defined below (the “Units”); (vii) warrants to purchase Debt Securities (the “Debt Warrants”); (viii) warrants to purchase Preferred Stock, Depositary Shares or Common Stock (the “Equity Warrants,” and together with the Debt Warrants, the “Warrants”); and (ix) rights entitling the holders thereof to purchase shares of Common Stock or other securities of the Company (the “Rights”). The Debt Securities, the Preferred Stock, the Common Stock, the Depositary Shares, the Purchase Contracts, the Units, the Warrants and the Rights are collectively referred to as the “Securities.”

In our capacity as the Company’s special counsel in connection with such registration, we have made such legal and factual examinations and inquiries, including an examination of originals or copies, certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of such documents, corporate records and instruments, as we have deemed necessary or appropriate for purposes of this opinion letter. In our examination, we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity to authentic original documents of all documents submitted to us as copies and the execution in substantially the form reviewed by us and filed as exhibits to the Registration Statement of: (i) the form of indenture for the Senior Debt Securities (the “Senior Indenture”); and (ii) the form of indenture for the Subordinated Debt Securities (the “Subordinated Indenture” and, together with the Senior Indenture, the “Indentures”). The Indentures, each deposit agreement entered into relating to the Depositary Shares (the “Deposit Agreement”), each warrant agreement entered into relating to the Warrants (the “Warrant Agreement”), the Purchase Contracts and the documents evidencing and used in connection with the issuance and sale of the Units (the “Unit Documents”) and the Rights (the “Rights Documents”) are collectively referred to below as the “Transaction Documents.”

In connection with this opinion letter, we have also assumed that: (i) a prospectus supplement for the applicable offering will have been prepared and filed with the Commission; (ii) all Securities will be issued and sold in compliance with applicable federal and state securities laws and in the manner stated in the Registration Statement and the applicable prospectus supplement; (iii) each person signing the Transaction Documents will have the legal capacity and authority to do so; (iv) at the time of any offering or sale by the Company of any shares of Common Stock

and/or Preferred Stock, the Company will have such number of shares of Common Stock and/or Preferred Stock as are to be so offered and sold, authorized and available for issuance; (v) a definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement with respect to any Securities offered will have been duly authorized and validly executed and delivered by the Company and the other parties thereto; and (vi) Securities issuable upon conversion, exchange or exercise of any Securities being offered will have been duly authorized and, if appropriate, reserved for issuance upon such conversion, exchange or exercise.

Our opinions expressed herein as to the legal validity, binding effect and enforceability of the obligations of the Company with respect to certain of the Securities are specifically qualified to the extent that the legal validity, binding effect or enforceability of such obligations may be subject to or limited by: (i) applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, conservatorship, receivership, liquidation, voidable preference, moratorium and other statutory or decisional laws relating to or affecting creditors' rights generally or the reorganization of financial institutions (including, without limitation, preference and fraudulent conveyance or transfer laws), heretofore or hereafter enacted or in effect; (ii) the exercise of judicial or administrative discretion in accordance with general equitable principles, whether enforcement is sought at law or in equity including, without limitation, the exercise of judicial or administrative discretion with respect to provisions relating to waivers, waiver of remedies (or the delay or omission of enforcement thereof), disclaimers, releases of legal or equitable rights or discharges of defenses; (iii) the availability of injunctive relief or other equitable remedies; and (iv) the application by courts of competent jurisdiction of laws containing provisions determined to have a paramount public interest.

We express no opinion (i) as to the enforceability of any provision or accumulation of provisions that may be deemed to be unconscionable or against public policy; (ii) as to provisions which purport to establish evidentiary standards; (iii) as to the enforceability of provisions relating to venue, governing law, disclaimers or liability limitations with respect to third parties; (iv) as to any anti-trust or state securities laws; (v) as to provisions regarding indemnification, waiver of the right to jury trial or waiver of objections to jurisdiction, each of which may be subject to limitations of public policy; (vi) as to provisions relating to waivers, waiver of remedies (or the delay or omission of enforcement thereof), disclaimers, releases of legal or equitable rights or discharges of defenses; or (vii) provisions which purport or would operate to render ineffective any waiver or modification not in writing.

Our opinions set forth below are limited to the matters expressly set forth in this opinion letter. No opinion is to be implied or may be inferred beyond the matters expressly so stated. The opinions expressed herein are limited solely to matters involving the application of the General Corporation Law of the state of Maryland and the contract laws of the state of New York, and we express no opinion with respect to the laws of any other jurisdiction. To the extent that the laws of any jurisdiction other than the state of New York govern the legal validity, binding effect and enforceability of any obligation of the Company as to which we opine herein, we have assumed that the laws of such other jurisdiction do not differ, in any respect material to such opinion, from the laws of the state of New York as currently in effect and the judicial and administrative interpretations thereof. The opinions expressed herein concern only the effect of laws as now in effect and are rendered as of the date hereof. We undertake no, and hereby disclaim any, obligation to revise or supplement this opinion letter should such laws be changed by legislative action, judicial decision, or otherwise after the date of this opinion letter, or if we become aware of any facts that might change the opinions expressed herein after the date of this opinion letter.

Subject to the foregoing and the other matters set forth herein, it is our opinion that, as of the date hereof:

1. With respect to any Debt Securities to be issued, when: (a) the applicable Indenture (including, for purposes of this paragraph, any supplemental indenture relating thereto setting forth the particular terms of the series of Debt Securities issued) has been (i) duly authorized by the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board"), (ii) duly executed and delivered by each party thereto and (iii) duly qualified under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended; (b) the Board has taken or caused to be taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance of and establish the terms of such Debt Securities, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters; (c) the terms of the Debt Securities and of their issuance and sale have been established so as to not violate any applicable law or the Company's charter or bylaws, or result in a default under or a breach of any agreement or instrument binding upon the Company and so as to comply with any requirements or restrictions imposed by any court, regulatory authority or other governmental body having jurisdiction over the Company; (d) the Debt Securities have been executed and authenticated in accordance with the terms of the Indenture; and (e) the Debt Securities have been issued, sold and

delivered in the manner and for the consideration stated in the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, upon payment of the consideration therefor provided for therein, or upon conversion or exercise of any other Security in accordance with the terms of such Security or the instrument governing such Security providing for such conversion, exchange or exercise as approved by the Board, then the Indenture and the Debt Securities to be issued under the Indenture will be valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms.

2. With respect to any shares of Preferred Stock to be issued, when: (a) the Board has taken or caused to be taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance of and establish the terms of such Preferred Stock, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters, including the adoption of resolutions relating to the preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends, qualifications, and terms and conditions of redemption of such Preferred Stock (the “Preferred Stock Resolutions”); (b) the Preferred Stock Resolutions have been included as part of articles supplementary to the Company’s charter duly filed with the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation; (c) the terms of the Preferred Stock and of their issuance and sale have been established so as to not violate any applicable law or the Company’s charter or bylaws, or result in a default under or a breach of any agreement or instrument binding upon the Company and so as to comply with any requirements or restrictions imposed by any court, regulatory authority or other governmental body having jurisdiction over the Company; and (d) certificates representing the shares of Preferred Stock have been duly executed, countersigned, registered and delivered (or such shares are issued in uncertificated form in accordance with the Company’s bylaws and Maryland law) either (i) in accordance with the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board upon payment of the consideration therefor (not less than the par value of the Preferred Stock) provided for therein or (ii) upon conversion or exercise of any other Security in accordance with the terms of such Security or the instrument governing such Security providing for such conversion or exercise as approved by the Board, for the consideration approved by the Board (not less than the par value of the Preferred Stock), then the shares of Preferred Stock will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

3. With respect to any Depositary Shares to be issued, when: (a) the related Deposit Agreement has been duly authorized and validly executed and delivered by the Company and by a depositary appointed by the Company (the “Depositary”) that meets the requirements for a depositary as described in the Registration Statement and as provided in the applicable Deposit Agreement; (b) the Board has taken or caused to be taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance of and establish the terms of the Depositary Shares and related shares of Preferred Stock (the “Related Preferred Stock”), the terms of the offering thereof and related matters, including the adoption of resolutions relating to the preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends, qualifications, and terms and conditions of redemption of the Related Preferred Stock (the “Related Preferred Stock Resolutions”); (c) the Related Preferred Stock Resolutions have been included as part of articles supplementary to the Company’s charter duly filed with the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation; (d) the terms of the Depositary Shares and the Related Preferred Stock and of the issuance and sale of each have been established so as to not violate any applicable law or the Company’s charter or bylaws, or result in a default under or a breach of any agreement or instrument binding upon the Company and so as to comply with any requirements or restrictions imposed by any court, regulatory authority or other governmental body having jurisdiction over the Company; (e) the shares of the Related Preferred Stock have been deposited with the Depositary; and (f) the depositary receipts representing the Depositary Shares have been duly executed, authenticated, countersigned, registered and issued, sold and delivered in the manner and for the consideration stated in the applicable Deposit Agreement and the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, upon payment of the consideration therefor provided for therein, then the Depositary Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable and will entitle the holders thereof to the rights specified in the Deposit Agreement and the depositary receipts.

4. With respect to any shares of Common Stock to be issued, when: (a) the Board has taken or caused to be taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance of and the terms of the offering of the shares of Common Stock and related matters; (b) the terms of the issuance and sale of the Common Stock have been established so as to not violate any applicable law or the Company’s charter or bylaws, or result in a default under or a breach of any agreement or instrument binding upon the Company and so as to comply with any requirements or restrictions imposed by any court, regulatory authority or other governmental body having jurisdiction over the Company; and (c) certificates representing the shares of Common Stock have been duly executed, countersigned, registered and

delivered (or such shares are issued in uncertificated form in accordance with the Company's bylaws and Maryland law) either (i) in accordance with the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board upon payment of the consideration therefor (not less than the par value of the Common Stock) provided for therein or (ii) upon conversion or exercise of any other Security, in accordance with the terms of such Security or the instrument governing such Security providing for such conversion or exercise as approved by the Board, for the consideration approved by the Board (not less than the par value of the Common Stock), then the shares of Common Stock will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

5. With respect to any Purchase Contracts to be issued, when: (a) such Purchase Contracts have been duly executed and delivered by the parties thereto; (b) the Board has taken or caused to be taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance of and establish the terms of such Purchase Contracts and their underlying Securities, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters; (c) the terms of the Purchase Contracts and of their issuance and sale have been established so as to not violate any applicable law or the Company's charter or bylaws, or result in a default under or a breach of any agreement or instrument binding upon the Company and so as to comply with any requirements or restrictions imposed by any court, regulatory authority or other governmental body having jurisdiction over the Company; and (d) the Purchase Contracts have been issued, sold and delivered in the manner and for the consideration stated in the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, upon payment of the consideration therefor provided for therein, then the Purchase Contracts will be valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms.

6. With respect to any Units to be issued, when: (a) the Unit Documents have been duly executed and delivered by the parties thereto; (b) the Board has taken or caused to be taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance of and establish the terms of such Units and their component Securities, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters; (c) the terms of the Units and their component Securities and of their issuance and sale have been established so as to not violate any applicable law or the Company's charter or bylaws, or result in a default under or a breach of any agreement or instrument binding upon the Company and so as to comply with any requirements or restrictions imposed by any court, regulatory authority or other governmental body having jurisdiction over the Company; (d) the certificates, if any, evidencing the Units have been executed and authenticated in accordance with the terms of the relevant Unit Documents; and (e) the Units and their component Securities have been issued, sold and delivered in the manner and for the consideration stated in the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, upon payment of the consideration therefor provided for therein, then the Units will be valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms.

7. With respect to any Debt Warrants to be issued, when: (a) a Warrant Agreement for the Debt Warrants has been duly executed and delivered by the Company and by a warrant agent appointed by the Company; (b) the Board has taken or caused to be taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance of and establish the terms of the Debt Warrants and their underlying Debt Securities, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters; (c) the terms of the Debt Warrants and of their issuance and sale have been established so as to not violate any applicable law or the Company's charter or bylaws, or result in a default under or a breach of any agreement or instrument binding upon the Company and so as to comply with any requirements or restrictions imposed by any court, regulatory authority or other governmental body having jurisdiction over the Company; (d) the certificates evidencing the Debt Warrants have been executed and authenticated in accordance with the terms of the related Warrant Agreement; and (e) the Debt Warrants have been issued, sold and delivered in the manner and for the consideration stated in the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, upon payment of the consideration therefor provided for therein, then the Debt Warrants will be valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms.

8. With respect to any Equity Warrants to be issued, when: (a) a Warrant Agreement for the Equity Warrants has been duly executed and delivered by the Company and by a warrant agent appointed by the Company; (b) the Board has taken or caused to be taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance of and establish the terms of the Equity Warrants and their underlying equity Securities, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters, including, in the case of Equity Warrants to purchase Preferred Stock or Depositary Shares, the adoption of resolutions relating to the designations, preferences, limitations and relative rights of such Preferred Stock or, in the case of Equity Warrants to purchase Depositary Shares, the Related Preferred Stock, which resolutions have been included as part of articles supplementary to the Company's charter duly filed with the Maryland Department of

Assessments and Taxation; (c) the terms of the Equity Warrants and of their issuance and sale have been established so as to not violate any applicable law or the Company's charter or bylaws, or result in a default under or a breach of any agreement or instrument binding upon the Company and so as to comply with any requirements or restrictions imposed by any court, regulatory authority or other governmental body having jurisdiction over the Company; (d) the certificates evidencing the Equity Warrants have been executed and authenticated in accordance with the terms of the related Warrant Agreement; and (e) the Equity Warrants have been issued, sold and delivered in the manner and for the consideration stated in the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, upon payment of the consideration therefor provided for therein, then the Equity Warrants will be valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms.

9. With respect to any Rights to be issued, when: (a) the documents, if any, evidencing and used in connection with the issuance and sale of the Rights that have been approved by the Board (the "Rights Documents") have been duly executed and delivered by the parties thereto; (b) the Board has taken or caused to be taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance of and establish the terms of such Rights and the issuance of the underlying securities, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters; (c) the terms of the Rights and of their issuance and sale have been established so as to not violate any applicable law or the Company's charter or bylaws, or result in a default under or a breach of any agreement or instrument binding upon the Company and so as to comply with any requirements or restrictions imposed by any court, regulatory authority or other governmental body having jurisdiction over the Company; (d) the certificates, if any, evidencing the Rights have been executed and authenticated in accordance with the terms of the relevant Rights Document; and (e) the Rights have been issued, sold and delivered in the manner and for the consideration stated in the applicable Rights Documents, upon payment of the consideration therefor provided for therein, then the Rights will be valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as Exhibit 5.1 to the Registration Statement and to the use of our name under the caption "Legal Matters" in the Registration Statement and in the prospectus included therein. In giving such consent, we do not admit that we come within the category of persons whose consent is required by Section 7 of the Securities Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder.

Very truly yours,

/s/ SILVER, FREEDMAN, TAFF & TIERNAN LLP  
SILVER, FREEDMAN, TAFF & TIERNAN LLP

**Exhibit 12.1****Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Earnings to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends**

|                                                                                        | Six months ended<br>June 30, |          | Year ended<br>December, 31, |          |          |          |           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
|                                                                                        | 2016                         | 2015     | 2015                        | 2014     | 2013     | 2012     | 2011      |
| <b>Earnings:</b>                                                                       |                              |          |                             |          |          |          |           |
| 1. Income (loss) before income taxes                                                   | \$ 77,752                    | \$49,501 | \$104,266                   | \$26,466 | \$ 7,908 | \$ 6,475 | \$(2,711) |
| 2. Add: Interest expense                                                               | 27,426                       | 19,523   | 42,621                      | 32,862   | 23,282   | 8,479    | 6,037     |
| 3. Earnings including interest on deposits                                             | 105,178                      | 69,024   | 146,887                     | 59,328   | 31,190   | 14,954   | 3,326     |
| 4. Less: Interest expense on deposits                                                  | 16,492                       | 12,526   | 25,783                      | 24,411   | 16,051   | 5,960    | 4,989     |
| 5. Earnings excluding interest on deposits                                             | \$ 88,686                    | \$56,498 | \$121,104                   | \$34,917 | \$15,139 | \$ 8,994 | \$(1,663) |
| <b>Fixed charges:</b>                                                                  |                              |          |                             |          |          |          |           |
| 6. Interest expense (Line 2)                                                           | \$ 27,426                    | \$19,523 | \$ 42,621                   | \$32,862 | \$23,282 | \$ 8,479 | \$ 6,037  |
| 7. Interest portion on rental expense                                                  | 2,809                        | 2,683    | 5,460                       | 4,331    | 2,532    | 1,025    | 202       |
| 8. Including interest on deposits and capitalized interest                             | 30,235                       | 22,206   | 48,081                      | 37,193   | 25,814   | 9,504    | 6,239     |
| 9. Less interest expense on deposits (Line 4)                                          | 16,492                       | 12,526   | 25,783                      | 24,411   | 16,051   | 5,960    | 4,989     |
| 10. Total fixed charges, excluding interest on deposits                                | \$ 13,743                    | \$ 9,680 | \$ 22,298                   | \$12,782 | \$ 9,763 | \$ 3,544 | \$ 1,250  |
| <b>Fixed charges and preferred stock dividends:</b>                                    |                              |          |                             |          |          |          |           |
| 11. Interest expense (Line 2)                                                          | \$ 27,426                    | \$19,523 | \$ 42,621                   | \$32,862 | \$23,282 | \$ 8,479 | \$ 6,037  |
| 12. Interest portion on rental expense                                                 | 2,809                        | 2,683    | 5,460                       | 4,331    | 2,532    | 1,025    | 202       |
| 13. Preferred stock dividends                                                          | 16,705                       | 6,471    | 16,936                      | 6,276    | 3,767    | 2,343    | 921       |
| 14. Including interest on deposits, capitalized interest and preferred stock dividends | 46,940                       | 28,677   | 65,017                      | 43,469   | 29,581   | 11,847   | 7,160     |
| 15. Less interest expense on deposits (Line 4)                                         | 16,492                       | 12,526   | 25,783                      | 24,411   | 16,051   | 5,960    | 4,989     |
| 16. Total fixed charges and preferred stock dividends, excluding interest on deposits  | \$ 30,448                    | \$16,151 | \$ 39,234                   | \$19,058 | \$13,530 | \$ 5,887 | \$ 2,171  |
| <b>Ratio of earnings to fixed charges:</b>                                             |                              |          |                             |          |          |          |           |
| Excluding interest on deposits (Line 5 divided by Line 10)                             | 6.45                         | 5.84     | 5.43                        | 2.73     | 1.55     | 2.54     | (1.33)    |
| Including interest on deposits (Line 3 divided by Line 8)                              | 3.48                         | 3.11     | 3.05                        | 1.60     | 1.21     | 1.57     | 0.53      |
| Deficiency                                                                             | \$ —                         | \$ —     | \$ —                        | \$ —     | \$ —     | \$ —     | \$ 2,913  |
| <b>Ratio of earnings to fixed charges and preferred stock dividends:</b>               |                              |          |                             |          |          |          |           |
| Excluding interest on deposits (Line 5 divided by Line 16)                             | 2.91                         | 3.50     | 3.09                        | 1.83     | 1.12     | 1.53     | (0.77)    |
| Including interest on deposits (Line 3 divided by Line 14)                             | 2.24                         | 2.41     | 2.26                        | 1.36     | 1.05     | 1.26     | 0.46      |
| Deficiency                                                                             | \$ —                         | \$ —     | \$ —                        | \$ —     | \$ —     | \$ —     | \$ 3,834  |

**Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

The Board of Directors  
Banc of California, Inc.

We consent to the use of our reports with respect to the consolidated financial statements and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting incorporated by reference herein and to the reference to our firm under the heading “Experts” in the Registration Statement.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Irvine, California  
August 4, 2016