



DIVISION OF  
CORPORATION FINANCE

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

May 8, 2013

Via E-mail

Mr. Greg L. McKinney  
Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer  
Bank of the Ozarks, Inc.  
17901 Chenal Parkway  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72223

**Re: Bank of the Ozarks, Inc.  
Amendment No. 1 to Registration Statement on Form S-4  
Filed April 30, 2013  
File No. 333-187564**

Dear Mr. McKinney:

We have reviewed your registration statement and have the following comments. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter by amending your registration statement and providing the requested information. If you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances or do not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing any amendment to your registration statement and the information you provide in response to these comments, we may have additional comments.

Form S-4

Recent Developments

1. Please add a section addressing the recent developments regarding Bank of the Ozarks, Inc.'s results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2013.

Certain Information Concerning the First National Bank of Shelby  
Balance Sheet Review, pages 102-103

2. We have reviewed your response to our prior comment number 21. Please expand Note 2 – Securities to the financial statements to provide the disclosure required by

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ASC 320-10-50-10-(d) for sales of or transfers from securities classified as held-to-maturity.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Act of 1933 and all applicable Securities Act rules require. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

Notwithstanding our comments, in the event you request acceleration of the effective date of the pending registration statement please provide a written statement from the company acknowledging that:

- should the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, declare the filing effective, it does not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing;
- the action of the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, in declaring the filing effective, does not relieve the company from its full responsibility for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments and the declaration of effectiveness as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

Please refer to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requests for acceleration. We will consider a written request for acceleration of the effective date of the registration statement as confirmation of the fact that those requesting acceleration are aware of their respective responsibilities under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as they relate to the proposed public offering of the securities specified in the above registration statement. Please allow adequate time for us to review any amendment prior to the requested effective date of the registration statement.

You may contact Chris Harley at (202) 551-3695 or Sharon Blume at (202) 551-3474 if you have questions regarding comments on the financial statements and related matters. Please contact Jonathan Gottlieb at (202) 551-3416 or me at (202) 551-3491 with any other questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Todd K. Schiffman

Todd K. Schiffman  
Assistant Director