

WESBANCO INC
Form 425
November 13, 2017

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): November 13, 2017

Wesbanco, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

West Virginia
(State or other jurisdiction)

000-08467
(Commission)

55-0571723
(IRS Employer)

of incorporation)	File Number)	Identification No.)
1 Bank Plaza, Wheeling, WV (Address of principal executive offices)		26003 (Zip Code)
Registrant's telephone number, including area code (304) 234-9000		

Former name or former address, if changed since last report Not Applicable

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter). Emerging growth company.

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement

On November 13, 2017, Wesbanco, Inc. (WesBanco) and First Sentry Bancshares, Inc. (First Sentry) entered into a definitive Agreement and Plan of Merger (the Merger Agreement) providing for the merger of First Sentry with and into WesBanco (the Merger). As a result of the Merger, the separate corporate existence of First Sentry will cease and WesBanco will continue as the surviving corporation in the Merger. The Merger Agreement also provides that, promptly following the completion of the Merger, First Sentry Bank, Inc., a West Virginia state-chartered commercial bank and a wholly-owned subsidiary of First Sentry, will merge with and into Wesbanco Bank, Inc., a West Virginia banking corporation and a wholly-owned subsidiary of WesBanco (the Bank Merger), with Wesbanco Bank, Inc. continuing as the surviving bank in the Bank Merger.

Under the terms of the Merger Agreement, WesBanco will exchange shares of its common stock for all of the issued and outstanding shares of common stock of First Sentry in an all-stock transaction. Shareholders of First Sentry common stock will be entitled to receive 1.5869 shares of WesBanco common stock for each share of First Sentry common stock in the Merger. Upon completion of the Merger, each outstanding vested and unvested stock option to acquire a share of First Sentry common stock that is outstanding immediately prior to the Merger will be cancelled and converted into the right to receive, on the terms and conditions set forth in the Merger Agreement, an amount in cash equal to the excess, if any, of \$64.00 over the per share exercise price under such stock option.

First Sentry and WesBanco have made customary representations, warranties and covenants in the Merger Agreement, including covenants made by First Sentry not to solicit alternative transactions or, subject to certain exceptions, to enter into discussions concerning, or provide confidential information in connection with, an alternative transaction. The Merger Agreement contains certain termination rights for both WesBanco and First Sentry and further provides that, upon termination of the Merger Agreement under certain circumstances, First Sentry may be obligated to pay WesBanco a termination fee of \$3,000,000.

Consummation of the Merger is subject to a number of customary conditions, including, but not limited to, the approval of the Merger Agreement by the shareholders of First Sentry and the receipt of required regulatory approvals. The transaction is expected to be completed in the first half of 2018.

As a condition to WesBanco's willingness to enter into the Merger Agreement, each of the directors and executive officers of First Sentry have entered into substantially identical voting agreements (each, a Voting Agreement) with WesBanco pursuant to which they have agreed to vote their shares in favor of the transaction. A form of the Voting Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit A to the Merger Agreement and is incorporated herein by reference.

A copy of the Merger Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.1 and is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. The foregoing summary of the Merger Agreement in this Item 1.01 is not complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the complete text of the Merger Agreement.

Additional Information About the Merger and Where to Find It

In connection with the proposed Merger, WesBanco will file with the SEC a Registration Statement on Form S-4 that will include a Proxy Statement of First Sentry and a Prospectus of WesBanco, as well as other relevant documents concerning the proposed transaction. **SHAREHOLDERS OF FIRST SENTRY AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES ARE URGED TO READ THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT AND THE PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS REGARDING THE MERGER WHEN IT BECOMES AVAILABLE AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC, AS WELL AS ANY AMENDMENTS OR SUPPLEMENTS TO THOSE DOCUMENTS, BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION.** The Proxy Statement/Prospectus will be mailed to shareholders of First Sentry prior to the First Sentry shareholder meeting, which has not yet been scheduled. In addition, when the Registration Statement on Form S-4, which will include the Proxy Statements/Prospectus and other related documents, is filed by WesBanco with the

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SEC, it may be obtained for free at the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>, on the NASDAQ website at <http://www.nasdaq.com> and from WesBanco's website at <http://www.wesbanco.com>.

Participants in the Solicitation

WesBanco and First Sentry and their respective executive officers and directors may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from the shareholders of First Sentry in connection with the proposed Merger. Information about the directors and executive officers of WesBanco is set forth in the proxy statement for WesBanco's 2017 annual meeting of shareholders, as filed with the SEC on March 14, 2017. Information about any other persons who may, under the rules of the SEC, be considered participants in the solicitation of First Sentry shareholders in connection with the proposed Merger will be included in the Proxy Statement/Prospectus. You can obtain free copies of these documents from the SEC or WesBanco using the website information above. This communication does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation, or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction.

FIRST SENTRY SHAREHOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THE PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS CAREFULLY WHEN IT BECOMES AVAILABLE BEFORE MAKING ANY VOTING OR INVESTMENT DECISIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE PROPOSED MERGER.

Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure

WesBanco and First Sentry will host a conference call and webcast to discuss the Agreement and Plan of Merger on November 14, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. ET. Interested parties can access the live webcast of the conference call through the Investor Relations section of WesBanco's website, www.wesbanco.com. Participants can also listen to the conference call by dialing 888-347-6607 (domestic), 855-669-9657 (Canada), or 412-902-4290 (international), and asking to be joined into the WesBanco call. Please log in or dial in at least 10 minutes prior to the start time to ensure a connection. WesBanco has prepared an investor presentation to accompany the call which is available via its website. A copy of this investor presentation is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

In accordance with General Instruction B.2. of Form 8-K, the information in this Item 7.01 and the accompanying Exhibit 99.1 shall not be deemed to be filed for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liability of that Section.

Item 8.01 Other Events

On November 13, 2017, WesBanco and First Sentry issued a press release announcing the signing of the Merger Agreement. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.2 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Cautionary Statement

The Merger Agreement and form of Voting Agreement have been included in this report to provide investors with information regarding their terms. Except for the status of each such agreement as the contractual document that establishes and governs the legal relations among the parties thereto with respect to the transactions described in this report, the Merger Agreement and form of Voting Agreement are not intended to be a source of factual, business or operational information about the parties thereto.

The representations, warranties, covenants and agreements made by the parties to the Merger Agreement are made as of specific dates and are qualified and limited, including by information in disclosure schedules that the parties exchanged in connection with the execution of such Merger Agreement. Moreover, certain of the representations and warranties are subject to a contractual standard of materiality that may be different from what may be viewed as

material to shareholders. Representations and warranties may be used as a tool to allocate risks between the parties to the Merger Agreement, including where the parties do not have complete knowledge of all facts.

Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements contained in this communication may not be based on historical facts and are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Matters set forth in this filing containing forward-looking statements, including certain plans, expectations, goals, and projections, and including statements about the benefits of the proposed Merger between WesBanco and First Sentry, are subject to numerous assumptions, risks, and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those contained or implied by such statements for a variety of factors including: the businesses of WesBanco and First Sentry may not be integrated successfully or such integration may take longer to accomplish than expected; the expected cost savings and any revenue synergies from the proposed Merger may not be fully realized within the expected timeframes; disruption from the proposed Merger may make it more difficult to maintain relationships with clients, associates, or suppliers; the required governmental approvals of the proposed Merger may not be obtained on the expected terms and schedule; First Sentry's shareholders may not approve the proposed Merger; changes in economic conditions; movements in interest rates; competitive pressures on product pricing and services; success and timing of other business strategies; the nature, extent, and timing of governmental actions and reforms; and extended disruption of vital infrastructure; and other factors described in WesBanco's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 and documents subsequently filed by WesBanco with the Securities and Exchange Commission. All forward-looking statements included in this filing are based on information available at the time of the release. Neither WesBanco nor First Sentry assumes any obligation to update any forward-looking statement.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits:

- 2.1 - Agreement and Plan of Merger dated November 13, 2017 by and between Wesbanco, Inc., Wesbanco Bank, Inc., First Sentry Bancshares, Inc. and First Sentry Bank, Inc.*
- 99.1 - Presentation by Wesbanco, Inc. for conference call and webcast on November 14, 2017.
- 99.2 - Joint Press release issued by Wesbanco, Inc. and First Sentry Bancshares, Inc., dated November 13, 2017, announcing the execution of the Agreement and Plan of Merger.

* Schedules have been omitted pursuant to Item 601(b)(2) of Regulation S-K but Wesbanco, Inc. will provide them to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon request.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Wesbanco, Inc.
(Registrant)

Date: November 13, 2017

/s/ Robert H. Young
Robert H. Young
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer