MERIDIAN INTERSTATE BANCORP INC Form 8-K December 14, 2011

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): December 9, 2011

MERIDIAN INTERSTATE BANCORP, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

of incorporation) File Number) Identification No.)

10 Meridian Street, East Boston, Massachusetts 02128 (Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (617) 567-1500

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

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))

Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers

On December 9, 2011, Paul T. Sullivan, a director of Meridian Interstate Bancorp, Inc. (the Company), and its wholly owned subsidiary, East Boston Savings Bank (the Bank), informed the Company and the Bank of his resignation from the boards of directors of the Company and the Bank, effective January 3, 2012. A press release announcing the resignation is attached as Exhibit 99 to this Current Report.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit No. Exhibit

99 Press release dated December 14, 2011

SIGNATURES

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.

MERIDIAN INTERSTATE BANCORP, INC.

DATE: December 14, 2011 By: /s/ Richard J. Gavegnano

Richard J. Gavegnano

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer