





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

On March 28, 2018, Donald E. McLaughlin, a Director of the Registrant, indicated his intention to retire from the Registrant's Board of Directors at its 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on May 31, 2018 (the "2018 Annual Meeting"). Mr. McLaughlin is retiring to spend more time with his family and on personal business. In addition, the Registrant's Board of Directors approved, subject to stockholder approval at the 2018 Annual Meeting, an amendment to the Company's Certificate of Incorporation to declassify the Board. To facilitate the transition to a declassified Board, each member of the Board of Directors with a term extending beyond the 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders has agreed to resign immediately after the 2018 Annual Meeting, assuming shareholder approval of the proposal to declassify the Board, and each such Director, other than Mr. McLaughlin, will be immediately re-appointed for a one-year term expiring at the 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

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**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.

OCEANFIRST FINANCIAL CORP.

Date: March 29, 2018 /s/ Steven J. Tsimbinos

Steven J. Tsimbinos

Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary