

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP  
Form 8-K  
November 20, 2003

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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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**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 18, 2003

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**CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or other  
jurisdiction of incorporation)

0-18630  
(Commission  
File Number)

95-4274680  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

777 North Broadway, Los Angeles, California  
(Address of principal executive offices)

90012  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (213) 625-4700

**Not Applicable**

**(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)**

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**Item 5. Other Events.**

Effective as of November 18, 2003, Dr. Ralph Roy Buon-Cristiani resigned as a director of Cathay General Bancorp (the Registrant) due to personal health reasons.

Dr. Buon-Cristiani has been invited to serve on the Registrant's Senior Advisory Board. The Senior Advisory Board was established in connection with the merger (the Merger) of GBC Bancorp into the Registrant, and is comprised of former directors of GBC Bancorp who did not join the Registrant's Board upon completion of the Merger. It is expected that the Senior Advisory Board will meet on a quarterly basis with Registrant's Board members and senior management regarding current operations and future strategic directions.

**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 thereunto duly authorized.

Date: November 20, 2003

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP

By:                     /s/ Heng W. Chen                    

Heng W. Chen

Executive Vice President and Chief  
Financial Officer