

HANMI FINANCIAL CORP
Form 424B5
March 14, 2017
Table of Contents

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)
Registration Nos. 333-216668

The information contained in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. A registration statement relating to these securities has been declared effective under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, by the Securities and Exchange Commission. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell the Notes and are not soliciting an offer to buy the Notes in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION DATED MARCH 14, 2017

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To Prospectus dated March 13, 2017)

\$

% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Subordinated Notes due 2027

We are offering \$ aggregate principal amount of % fixed-to-floating rate subordinated notes due 2027 (the Notes) pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The Notes will mature on , 2027. From and including the date of issuance to, but excluding , 2022, the Notes will bear interest at an initial fixed rate of % per annum, payable semi-annually in arrears on and of each year, commencing on , 2017. From and including , 2022 to but excluding the maturity date or the date of earlier redemption, the interest rate will reset quarterly to an annual interest rate equal to the then-current three-month LIBOR rate plus basis points (%), payable quarterly in arrears on , and of each year, commencing on , 2022. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that three-month LIBOR is less than zero, three-month LIBOR shall be deemed to be zero.

We may, at our option, beginning with the interest payment date of , 2022 and on any interest payment date thereafter, redeem the Notes, in whole or in part. The Notes will not otherwise be redeemable by us prior to maturity, unless certain events occur, as described under *Description of the Notes Redemption* in this prospectus supplement. The redemption price for any redemption is 100% of the principal amount of the Notes, plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon to but excluding the date of redemption. Any redemption of the Notes prior to maturity will be subject to the receipt of the approval of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the Federal Reserve) to the

extent then required under applicable laws or regulations, including capital regulations.

The Notes will be unsecured and will rank equal in right of payment with all other unsecured subordinated indebtedness of Hanmi Financial Corporation issued in the future under the indenture governing the Notes. There is no sinking fund for the Notes. The Notes will be subordinated in right of payment to all current and future senior indebtedness of Hanmi Financial Corporation, including all of its general creditors, and the Notes will be structurally subordinated to all of its subsidiaries existing and future indebtedness and other obligations. The Notes are obligations of Hanmi Financial Corporation only and are not obligations of, and are not guaranteed by, any of Hanmi Financial Corporation's subsidiaries, including Hanmi Bank. The holders of the Notes may be fully subordinated to interests held by the U.S. government in the event that we enter into a bankruptcy, receivership, insolvency, liquidation, or similar proceeding.

The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange or quoted on any automatic quotation system. Currently, there is no public trading market for the Notes.

	Per Note	Total
Price to public(1)	%	\$
Underwriting discounts	%	\$
Proceeds to us, before expenses	%	\$

(1) Plus accrued interest, if any, from the original issue date. The underwriters will also be reimbursed for certain expenses incurred in this offering. See *Underwriting* in this prospectus supplement.

Investing in the Notes involves risks. Before investing in the Notes, potential purchasers of the Notes should consider the information set forth in the Risk Factors section beginning on page S-8 and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, which is incorporated herein by reference.

The Notes will not be savings accounts, deposits or other obligations of our subsidiary bank, Hanmi Bank, or any of our non-bank subsidiaries and will not be insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the FDIC) or any other government agency or instrumentality.

None of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC), the FDIC, the Federal Reserve, the California Department of Business Oversight (the DBO) or any state securities commission or any other bank regulatory agency has approved or disapproved of the Notes or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The underwriters expect to deliver the Notes to purchasers in book-entry form through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company (which, along with its successors, we refer to as DTC), and its direct participants, against payment therefor in immediately available funds, on or about _____, 2017.

Lead Book Running Manager

Passive Book Running Manager

SANDLER O NEILL + PARTNERS, L.P.

KEEFE, BRUYETTE & WOODS

A STIFEL COMPANY

Prospectus Supplement dated , 2017

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

	Page
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT</u>	S-ii
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	S-iii
<u>CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	S-iv
<u>PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY</u>	S-1
<u>THE OFFERING</u>	S-2
<u>SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u>	S-5
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	S-8
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	S-13
<u>CAPITALIZATION</u>	S-14
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES</u>	S-15
<u>UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS</u>	S-29
<u>BENEFIT PLAN/ERISA CONSIDERATIONS</u>	S-32
<u>UNDERWRITING</u>	S-34
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	S-36
<u>EXPERTS</u>	S-36

Prospectus

	Page
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	1
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	2
<u>SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	2
<u>HANMI FINANCIAL CORPORATION</u>	3
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	3
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	3
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES</u>	4
<u>DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES</u>	4
<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</u>	4
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES</u>	7
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u>	10
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	19
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	21
<u>EXPERTS</u>	21

Table of Contents

Unless otherwise indicated or the context otherwise requires, all references in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to Hanmi Financial, the Company, we, our, us or similar terms refer to Hanmi Financial Corporation, together, when appropriate, with its subsidiaries. References to Hanmi refer to Hanmi Financial Corporation and not to any of its subsidiaries. References to Hanmi Bank or the Bank refer to Hanmi Bank, which is our wholly owned bank subsidiary.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document consists of two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering and certain other matters relating to us and our financial condition, and it also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, gives more general information, some of which does not apply to this offering. You should read carefully both this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in their entirety, together with additional information described under the heading *Where You Can Find More Information* in this prospectus supplement before making an investment decision.

To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus supplement, on the one hand, and the information contained in the accompanying prospectus, on the other hand, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement.

In making your investment decision, you should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, in the accompanying prospectus and in any free writing prospectus with respect to this offering filed by us with the SEC. Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized any other person to provide you with different information. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, any free writing prospectus with respect to the offering filed by us with the SEC and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein is accurate only as of their respective dates. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

We and the underwriters are not offering to sell nor seeking offers to buy the Notes in any jurisdiction where offers and sales are not permitted. The distribution of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the offering of the Notes in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons outside the United States who come into possession of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus must inform themselves about and observe any restrictions relating to the offering of the Notes and the distribution of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus outside the United States. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not constitute, and may not be used in connection with, an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, any securities offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus by any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for such person to make such an offer or solicitation.

Table of Contents

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file reports, proxy statements, and other information with the SEC. Such reports, proxy statements, and other information concerning us can be read and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549 or on the Internet at <http://www.sec.gov>. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the Public Reference Room. Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, and these reports, proxy statements and other information are also available for inspection at the offices of the NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc. located at 1735 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with the SEC. This permits us to disclose important information to you by referring to these filed documents. Any information referred to in this way is considered part of this prospectus supplement, and any information filed with the SEC by us after the date of this prospectus supplement until the completion of the offering of the Notes or until we terminate the offering of the Notes will automatically be deemed to update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the following documents that have been filed with the SEC (other than information in such documents that is not deemed to be filed):

Hanmi's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016; and

portions of Hanmi's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A for the 2016 annual meeting of stockholders incorporated by reference in Hanmi's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015.

We also incorporate by reference any future filings (other than any information contained in such filings that is deemed furnished in accordance with SEC rules, including but not limited to, information furnished under Items 2.02 and 7.01 of any Current Report on Form 8-K including related exhibits) made with the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), until the completion of the offering of the Notes or until we terminate the offering of the Notes.

We will provide without charge upon written or oral request a copy of any or all of the documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, other than exhibits which are not specifically incorporated by reference into such documents. Requests should be directed to our Investor Relations department at Hanmi Financial Corporation, 3660 Wilshire Boulevard, Penthouse Suite A, Los Angeles, California 90010. Our telephone number is (213) 382-2200.

You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, any free writing prospectus with respect to the offering filed by us with the SEC and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein is accurate only as of their respective dates. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the statements contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, including documents incorporated by reference herein and therein, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), and Section 21E of the Exchange Act, which are subject to the safe harbor created by those sections. Forward-looking statements are based on our management's beliefs and assumptions and on information currently available to our management. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as may, will, should, could, goal, would, expect, anticipate, believe, estimate, project, predict, potential, continue and similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause our actual results, performance, time frames or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance, time frames or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Should one or more of these risks materialize or should underlying beliefs or assumptions prove incorrect, actual results could differ materially from those anticipated by the forward-looking statements or historical results. Accordingly, you should not place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, among others, the following possibilities:

general economic or business conditions, either globally, nationally or in Southern California, or in the specific markets in which we operate, including, without limitation, the deterioration of non-residential real estate, hospitality industry and gas stations;

significant reliance on loans secured by real estate and the associated vulnerability to downturns in the real estate markets where properties securing our loans are located, natural disasters, environmental liabilities and other variables impacting the value of real estate, including in Southern California;

our use of appraisals in deciding whether to make loans secured by real property, which does not ensure that the value of the real property collateral will be sufficient to pay our loans;

a significant number of customers failing to perform under their loans and other extensions of credit;

fluctuations in interest rates and a decline in the level of our interest rate spread;

failure to attract or retain deposits and restrictions on taking brokered deposits;

failure to raise enough capital to support our operations or meet our regulatory requirements;

failure to maintain adequate levels of capital to support our operations;

change or uncertainty in monetary, fiscal, tax and other governmental policies, including the Federal Reserve's actions with respect to interest rates;

current, pending or future changes in the legal, regulatory, and enforcement framework and oversight of financial institutions that adversely affect the businesses in which we are engaged, including the impact of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 or changes that may affect leverage limits and risk-based capital and liquidity requirements;

sources of liquidity available to us and to Hanmi Bank becoming limited or our potential inability to access sufficient sources of liquidity when needed or the requirement that we obtain government waivers to do so;

regulatory restrictions on Hanmi Bank's ability to pay dividends to us and on our ability to make payments on our obligations;

competition and demographic changes in our primary market areas;

failure in or breach of our operational or security systems or infrastructure, or of those of third parties that we rely on;

damage to our reputation, including as a result of fraudulent activity;

Table of Contents

failure to attract or retain our key employees;

failure to achieve future organic growth or future acquisition driven growth;

the ability to efficiently integrate acquisitions into our operations, retain the customers of these businesses and grow the acquired operations and possible failures to achieve expected gains, revenue, expense savings and other anticipated synergies and benefits from such transactions;

credit quality and the effect of credit quality on our provision for credit losses and allowance for loan losses;

volatility and disruption in financial, credit and securities markets;

deterioration in financial markets that may result in impairment charges relating to our securities portfolio;

global hostilities, acts of war or terrorism, including but not limited to, conflict between North and South Korea;

the effects of litigation against us; and

other risks and uncertainties detailed from time to time in Hanmi's SEC filings.

The foregoing factors should not be construed as exhaustive. Any forward-looking statements made in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus or in any documents incorporated by reference herein or therein, are subject to the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these statements, which speak only as of the date of this prospectus supplement or the date of any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. Except as required by law, Hanmi Financial assumes no obligation to update these forward-looking statements publicly, or to update the reasons actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements, even if new information becomes available in the future. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to Hanmi Financial or any person acting on its behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained or referred to in this prospectus supplement.

S-v

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

The following is a summary of selected information contained elsewhere in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. It does not contain all of the information that you should consider before deciding to purchase the Notes offered hereby. You should read this entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein or therein carefully, especially the Risk Factors section and the historical financial statements and the related notes thereto and management's discussion and analysis thereof included elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement before making an investment decision.

Hanmi Financial Corporation

Hanmi Financial Corporation is a Delaware corporation incorporated on March 14, 2000 to be the holding company for Hanmi Bank. The Bank is a state chartered bank incorporated under the laws of the State of California on August 24, 1981, and licensed pursuant to the California Financial Code on December 15, 1982. The Bank's deposit accounts are insured under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act up to applicable limits thereof.

The Bank is a community bank conducting general business banking, with its primary market encompassing the Korean-American community as well as other ethnic communities across California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, Texas, Virginia and Washington. The Bank's full-service offices are located in markets where many of the businesses are run by immigrants and other minority groups. The Bank's client base reflects the multi-ethnic composition of these communities.

The Bank has historically provided its banking services through its branch network to a wide variety of small- to medium-sized businesses. With the acquisition of Central Bancorp Inc., a Texas corporation and the parent company of United Central Bank, during 2014, the Bank expanded its market share from a previously core Korean American customer base to a broader Asian American and mainstream communities primarily in Illinois and Texas.

The Bank originates loans and leases for its own portfolio and for sale in the secondary market. Lending activities include real estate loans (commercial property, construction and residential property), commercial and industrial loans (commercial term, commercial lines of credit and international), equipment lease financing, consumer loans and Small Business Administration loans.

Effective July 19, 2016, the Bank converted from a state member bank to a state nonmember bank and, as a result, the FDIC is now its primary federal bank regulator. The DBO remains the Bank's primary state bank regulator. Hanmi, which is a bank holding company and a financial holding company, and the Bank, which is a California-chartered state nonmember bank, are subject to significant regulation and restrictions by federal and state laws and regulatory agencies. The applicable statutes and regulations, among other things, restrict activities and investments in which we may engage and our conduct of them, impose capital requirements with which we must comply, impose various reporting and information collecting obligations upon us, and subject us to comprehensive supervision and regulation by regulatory agencies. The federal and state banking statutes and regulations and the supervision, regulation and examination of banks and their parent companies by the regulatory agencies are intended primarily for the maintenance of the safety and soundness of banks and their depositors, the Deposit Insurance Fund of the FDIC, and the financial system as a whole, rather than for the protection of stockholders or creditors of banks or their parent companies. See Item 1 Business Regulation and Supervision in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 for more information regarding the regulations we are subject to.

Our headquarters are located at 3660 Wilshire Boulevard, Penthouse Suite A, Los Angeles, California 90010, and our telephone number is (213) 382-2200. Our website can be found at <http://www.Hanmi.com>. The contents of our website are not incorporated into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Additional information about us and our subsidiaries is included in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement under the heading *Where You Can Find More Information*.

S-1

Table of Contents**THE OFFERING**

The following description contains basic information about the Notes and this offering. This description is not complete and does not contain all of the information that you should consider before investing in the Notes. For a more complete understanding of the Notes, you should read the section of this prospectus supplement entitled Description of the Notes.

Issuer	Hanmi Financial Corporation
Securities offered	% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Subordinated Notes due 2027
Aggregate principal amount	\$
Issue price	%
Maturity date	The Notes will mature on , 2027
Interest rate	From and including the issue date to but excluding , 2022, a fixed per annum rate of %.
	From and including , 2022 to but excluding the maturity date or the date of earlier redemption, a floating per annum rate equal to the then-current three-month LIBOR rate, determined on the determination date of the applicable interest period, plus basis points (%); <i>provided, however,</i> in the event that three-month LIBOR is less than zero, three-month LIBOR shall be deemed to be zero. For any determination date, LIBOR means the rate as published by Bloomberg (or any successor service) at approximately 11:00 a.m., London time, two business days prior to the commencement of the relevant quarterly interest period, as the London interbank rate for U.S. dollars. If such rate is not available at such time for any reason, then the rate for that interest period will be determined by such alternate method as provided in the indenture governing the Notes. Hanmi has appointed Wilmington Trust, National Association as the calculation agent for purposes of determining three-month LIBOR for each floating rate interest period.
Interest payment dates	Until, but not including , 2022, we will pay interest on the Notes on and of each year, commencing , 2017.
	From and including , 2022 to , 2027 but excluding the maturity date or the date of earlier redemption, we will pay interest on the Notes on , , and of each year, commencing , 2022.
Record dates	From , 2017 to but excluding , 2022, and of each year.
	From , 2022 through the maturity date or the date of earlier redemption, , , and of each year.
Day count convention	Interest will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months to but excluding , 2022 and, thereafter, on the basis of

the actual number of days in the relevant interest period divided by 360.

No guarantee

The Notes are not guaranteed by any of Hanmi's subsidiaries, including Hanmi Bank. As a result, the Notes will be structurally subordinated to the liabilities of Hanmi's subsidiaries as discussed below under *Description of the Notes Ranking*.

S-2

Table of Contents

Subordination, ranking

The Notes offered by this prospectus supplement will be issued by Hanmi under a subordinated indenture, dated as of _____, 2017, between Hanmi and Wilmington Trust, National Association, as trustee (the Trustee), as amended and supplemented by a first supplemental indenture, dated as of _____, 2017, between Hanmi and the Trustee. We refer to the subordinated indenture, as amended and supplemented by the first supplemental indenture, as the Indenture. The Notes will be Hanmi's unsecured, subordinated obligations and:

_____ will rank junior in right of payment and upon our liquidation to any of our existing and all of our future senior indebtedness (as defined in the Indenture and as described under *Description of the Notes* in this prospectus supplement);

_____ will rank junior in right of payment and upon our liquidation to any of our existing and all of our future general creditors;

_____ will rank equal in right of payment and upon our liquidation with all of Hanmi's future indebtedness the terms of which provide that such indebtedness ranks equally with the Notes;

_____ will rank senior in right of payment and upon our liquidation to any of Hanmi's indebtedness the terms of which provide that such indebtedness ranks junior in right of payment to note indebtedness such as the Notes;

_____ will be effectively subordinated to Hanmi's future secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the collateral securing such indebtedness; and

_____ will be structurally subordinated to the existing and future indebtedness of Hanmi's subsidiaries, including without limitation the Bank's depositors, liabilities to general and trade creditors and liabilities arising in the ordinary course of business or otherwise.

As of December 31, 2016, on a consolidated basis, our outstanding indebtedness and other liabilities totaled approximately \$4.2 billion, which includes approximately \$3.8 billion of deposit liabilities. As of December 31, 2016, we also had approximately \$26.8 million of outstanding principal and accrued but unpaid interest related to junior subordinated debentures issued to certain capital trusts which is junior to the Notes, with a carrying value of \$19.0 million on the balance sheet as of that date.

The Indenture will not limit the amount of additional indebtedness Hanmi or its subsidiaries may incur.

Optional redemption

We may, at our option, beginning with the interest payment date of _____, 2022, and on any interest payment date thereafter, redeem the Notes, in whole or in part, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest to but excluding the date of redemption. For more information, see *Description of the Notes Redemption* in this prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

Special redemption	We may also redeem the Notes at any time, including prior to , 2022, at our option, in whole but not in part, if: (a) a change or prospective change in law occurs that could prevent us from deducting interest payable on the Notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes; (b) a subsequent event occurs that could preclude the Notes from being recognized as Tier 2 capital for regulatory capital purposes; or (c) we are required to register as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended; in each case, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes plus any accrued and unpaid interest to but excluding the redemption date. For more information, see <i>Description of the Notes Redemption</i> in this prospectus supplement.
Sinking fund	There is no sinking fund for the Notes.
Further issuances	The Notes will initially be limited to an aggregate principal amount of \$. We may from time to time, without notice to or consent of the holders of the Notes, increase the aggregate principal amount of the Notes outstanding by issuing additional notes in the future with the same terms as the Notes, except for the issue date, the offering price and the first interest payment date, and such additional notes may be consolidated with the Notes issued in this offering and form a single series.
Use of proceeds	We estimate that the net proceeds of this offering, after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated expenses, will be approximately \$ million. We expect to use the net proceeds from the sale of the Notes for general corporate purposes, which may include advances to our subsidiary bank to finance its activities.
Form and denomination	The Notes will be offered in book-entry form through the facilities of DTC in minimum denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.
Listing	The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange or quoted on any automatic quotation system. Currently, there is no market for the Notes, and there can be no assurances that any public market for the Notes will develop.
Governing law	The Notes and the Indenture will be governed by the laws of the State of New York.
Trustee	Wilmington Trust, National Association
Risk factors	Investing in the Notes involves risks. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider the information under <i>Risk Factors</i> beginning on page S-8 of this prospectus supplement and Item 1.A, Risk Factors, in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, and the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.
Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges	Please refer to the information contained under <i>Consolidated Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</i> in the accompanying prospectus for a representation of such ratios for each of the last five fiscal years.

S-4

Table of Contents**SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

The following summary financial information for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 and 2012 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. You should not assume the results of operations for any past periods indicate results for any future period. You should read this information in conjunction with our

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement. See *Where You Can Find More Information*.

	As of and for the Year Ended December 31,				
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
	<i>(In thousands)</i>				
Summary Statements of Operations:					
Interest and dividend income	\$ 178,471	\$ 164,226	\$ 136,734	\$ 119,140	\$ 117,282
Interest expense	18,274	16,109	14,033	13,507	18,745
Net interest income	160,197	148,117	122,701	105,633	98,537
(Negative provision) provision for loan and lease losses	(4,339)	(11,614)	(6,258)	576	7,156
Noninterest income	33,075	47,602	42,296	27,900	21,413
Noninterest expense	108,223	115,328	98,671	70,441	69,455
Income before provision (benefit) for income taxes	89,388	92,005	72,584	62,516	43,339
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	32,899	38,182	22,379	22,732	(46,818)
Net income from continuing operations	56,489	53,823	50,205	39,784	90,157
(Loss) income from discontinued operations			(444)	73	167
Net income	\$ 56,489	\$ 53,823	\$ 49,761	\$ 39,857	\$ 90,324
Summary Balance Sheets:					
Cash and due from banks	\$ 147,235	\$ 164,364	\$ 158,320	\$ 179,357	\$ 268,047
Securities	516,964	698,296	1,060,717	530,926	451,060
Loans and leases receivable (1)	3,812,340	3,140,381	2,735,832	2,177,498	1,986,051
Assets	4,701,346	4,234,521	4,232,443	3,054,379	2,881,409
Deposits	3,809,737	3,509,976	3,556,746	2,512,325	2,395,963
Liabilities	4,170,321	3,740,603	3,779,056	2,654,302	2,504,156
Stockholders' equity	531,025	493,918	453,387	400,077	377,253
Tangible equity	518,136	492,217	451,307	398,906	375,918
Average loans and leases (2)	3,423,292	2,901,698	2,440,682	2,156,626	1,993,367

Edgar Filing: HANMI FINANCIAL CORP - Form 424B5

Average securities	638,938	818,205	676,729	446,563	443,910
Average interest-earning assets	4,103,960	3,805,877	3,163,141	2,687,799	2,686,425
Average assets	4,372,698	4,076,669	3,410,751	2,827,508	2,792,349
Average deposits	3,607,585	3,502,886	2,872,029	2,391,248	2,349,082
Average borrowings	215,525	56,878	81,110	27,815	85,760
Average interest-bearing liabilities	2,640,953	2,493,513	2,054,680	1,678,618	1,758,135
Average stockholders equity	518,867	476,401	425,913	392,601	328,013
Average tangible equity (3)	516,238	474,498	425,018	391,342	326,586

S-5

Table of Contents

	As of and for the Year Ended December 31,				
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
	<i>(In thousands)</i>				
Selected Performance Ratios:					
Return on average assets (4) (13)	1.29%	1.32%	1.47%	1.41%	3.23%
Return on average stockholders equity (5) (13)	10.89%	11.30%	11.79%	10.13%	27.49%
Return on average tangible equity (6) (13) (17)	10.94%	11.34%	11.81%	10.17%	27.61%
Net interest spread (7)	3.71%	3.67%	3.65%	3.64%	3.30%
Net interest margin (8)	3.95%	3.90%	3.88%	3.94%	3.68%
Net interest margin (excluding purchase accounting) (16)	3.79%	3.47%	3.65%	3.94%	3.68%
Efficiency ratio (9)	56.00%	58.93%	59.80%	52.75%	58.87%
Efficiency ratio (excluding merger and integration costs) (9)	55.83%	57.92%	55.77%	52.21%	58.87%
Dividend payout ratio (10)	37.57%	27.81%	17.83%	11.11%	%
Average stockholders equity to average assets	11.87%	11.69%	12.49%	13.89%	11.75%
Selected Capital Ratios:					
Total risk-based capital ratio:					
Hanmi Financial	13.86%	14.91%	15.89%	17.48%	20.65%
Hanmi Bank	13.64%	14.86%	15.18%	16.79%	19.85%
Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio:					
Hanmi Financial	13.02%	13.65%	14.63%	16.26%	19.37%
Hanmi Bank	12.80%	13.60%	13.93%	15.53%	18.58%
Common equity tier 1 capital ratio:					
Hanmi Financial	12.73%	13.65%	%	%	%
Hanmi Bank	12.80%	13.60%	%	%	%
Tier 1 leverage ratio:					
Hanmi Financial	11.53%	11.31%	10.91%	13.62%	14.95%
Hanmi Bank	11.33%	11.27%	10.39%	13.05%	14.33%
Selected Asset Quality Ratios:					
Non-performing loans and leases to loans and leases receivable (11) (14)	0.30%	0.60%	0.92%	1.16%	1.82%
Non-performing assets to assets (12)	0.40%	0.65%	0.97%	0.87%	1.32%
Net loan and lease charge-offs (recoveries) to average loans and leases receivable (14)	0.18%	(0.06)%	(0.06)%	0.29%	1.70%
Allowance for loan and lease losses to loans and leases receivable (14) (15)	0.84%	1.35%	1.88%	2.58%	3.09%
Allowance for loan and lease losses to non-performing loans and leases (15)	275.80%	196.12%	204.26%	222.42%	169.81%

(1) Excludes loans held for sale.

(2) Includes loans held for sale.

(3) Tangible equity is a Non-GAAP financial measure. The Company calculates certain supplemental financial information determined by methods other than in accordance with U.S. GAAP, including tangible

S-6

Table of Contents

assets. These non-GAAP measures are used by management in analyzing Hanmi Financial's capital strength, core loan and lease interest income and yield, and net interest income and margin without the impact of the acquisition of Central Bancorp Inc., completed in August 2014. Tangible equity is calculated by subtracting goodwill and other intangible assets from stockholders' equity.

Management believes the presentation of these financial measures excluding the impact of items described in the preceding paragraph provide useful supplemental information that is essential to a proper understanding of the capital strength of Hanmi Financial and our core interest income and margin. These disclosures should not be viewed as a substitution for results determined in accordance with GAAP, nor are they necessarily comparable to non-GAAP performance measures that may be presented by other companies.

The following table reconciles these non-GAAP performance measure to the GAAP performance measure for the periods indicated:

	As of and for the Year Ended December 31,				
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
	<i>(In thousands)</i>				
Average stockholders' equity	\$ 518,867	\$ 476,401	\$ 425,913	\$ 392,601	\$ 328,013
Less average goodwill	(1,078)				
Less average other intangible assets	(1,551)	(1,903)	(895)	(1,259)	(1,427)
Average tangible equity	\$ 516,238	\$ 474,498	\$ 425,018	\$ 391,342	\$ 326,586
Return on average stockholders' equity	10.89%	11.30%	11.79%	10.13%	27.49%
Effect of average intangible assets	0.05%	0.04%	0.02%	0.03%	0.12%
Return on average tangible equity	10.94%	11.34%	11.81%	10.17%	27.61%

- (4) Net income divided by average assets.
- (5) Net income divided by average stockholders' equity.
- (6) Net income divided by average tangible equity. Average tangible equity is a Non-GAAP financial measure, as discussed in footnote 3.
- (7) Average yield earned on interest-earning assets less average rate paid on interest-bearing liabilities. Computed on a tax-equivalent basis using the current statutory federal tax rate.
- (8) Net interest income divided by average interest-earning assets. Computed on a tax-equivalent basis using the current statutory federal tax rate.
- (9) Noninterest expense divided by the sum of net interest income and noninterest income.
- (10) Dividends declared per share divided by basic earnings per share.
- (11) Nonperforming loans and leases, excluding loans held for sale, consist of nonaccrual loans and leases, and loans and leases past due 90 days or more still accruing interest.
- (12) Nonperforming assets consist of nonperforming loans and leases and other real estate owned.
- (13) Amounts calculated on net income from continuing operations. Average tangible equity is a Non-GAAP financial measure, as discussed in footnote 3.
- (14) Excludes purchased credit-impaired loans.
- (15) Excludes allowance for loan losses on purchased credit-impaired loans.

(16) Net interest income less net accretion of discounts related to purchase accounting divided by average interest-earning assets. Computed on a tax-equivalent basis using the current statutory federal tax rate.

S-7

Table of Contents**RISK FACTORS**

*Investing in the Notes involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the following risk factors related to the Notes as well as the risk factors included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, in addition to the other information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, before making an investment decision. See *Where You Can Find More Information* in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus for discussions of these other filings. The risks and uncertainties discussed below and in the documents referred to above, are not the only risks and uncertainties that we face, and our business, financial condition, liquidity and results of operations could be materially adversely affected by other matters that are not known to us or that we currently do not consider to be material risks to our business.*

The Notes will be unsecured and subordinated to any future senior indebtedness.

The Notes will be unsecured, subordinated obligations of Hanmi. Accordingly, they will be junior in right of payment to any of our current and future senior indebtedness, and in certain events of insolvency, to other financial obligations as described in *Description of the Notes* in this prospectus supplement. Our senior indebtedness includes all indebtedness, except indebtedness that is expressly subordinated to or ranked *pari passu* with the Notes, subject to certain exceptions. The Notes will rank equally with all other unsecured subordinated indebtedness of Hanmi issued in the future under the Indenture. As of December 31, 2016, on a consolidated basis, our outstanding indebtedness and other liabilities totaled approximately \$4.2 billion, which includes approximately \$3.8 billion of deposit liabilities. As of December 31, 2016, we also had approximately \$26.8 million of outstanding principal and accrued but unpaid interest related to junior subordinated debentures issued to certain capital trusts which is junior to the Notes, with a carrying value of \$19.0 million on the balance sheet as of that date. In addition, the Notes will be structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness, liabilities and other obligations, including deposits, of Hanmi's subsidiaries, including Hanmi Bank. As of December 31, 2016, on an as adjusted basis to give effect to the sale of the Notes offered hereby, we would have had, on a consolidated basis, approximately \$ billion of indebtedness.

In addition, the Notes will not be secured by any of our assets. As a result, the Notes will be effectively subordinated to all of our secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness. The Indenture will not limit the amount of senior indebtedness and other financial obligations or secured obligations that Hanmi or its subsidiaries may incur.

As a result of the subordination provisions described above, holders of Notes may not be fully repaid in the event of our bankruptcy, receivership, insolvency, liquidation or similar proceeding.

The Notes will not be insured or guaranteed by the FDIC or any other governmental agency.

The Notes will not be bank deposits and will not be insured or guaranteed by the FDIC or any other governmental agency. The Notes will be obligations of Hanmi only.

The Notes will be structurally subordinated to the indebtedness and other liabilities of Hanmi's subsidiaries, which means that creditors of Hanmi's subsidiaries generally will be paid from those subsidiaries' assets before holders of the Notes would have any claims to those assets.

The Notes will be obligations of Hanmi only and will not be obligations of, or guaranteed by, any of its subsidiaries, including Hanmi Bank. The Notes will be structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities of Hanmi's subsidiaries, including Hanmi Bank, which means that creditors of Hanmi's subsidiaries

(including, in the case of Hanmi Bank, its depositors) generally will be paid from those subsidiaries' assets before holders of the Notes would have any claims to those assets. Even if Hanmi becomes a creditor of any of its subsidiaries, Hanmi's rights as a creditor would be subordinate to any security interest in the

S-8

Table of Contents

assets of that subsidiary and any debt of that subsidiary senior to that held by it, and its rights could otherwise be subordinated to the rights of other creditors and depositors of that subsidiary. Furthermore, none of Hanmi's subsidiaries is under any obligation to make payments to it, and any payments to it would depend on the earnings or financial condition of its subsidiaries and various business considerations. Statutory, contractual or other restrictions also limit, and future laws, regulations or contracts may further limit, Hanmi's subsidiaries' ability to pay dividends or make distributions, loans or advances to it. For these reasons, Hanmi may not have access to any assets or cash flows of Hanmi's subsidiaries to make interest and principal payments on the Notes.

The Indenture will not contain any limitations on our ability to incur additional indebtedness, grant or incur a lien on our assets, sell or otherwise dispose of assets, pay dividends or repurchase our capital stock.

Neither we nor any of our subsidiaries is restricted from incurring additional indebtedness or other liabilities, including additional senior or subordinated indebtedness, under the Indenture. We expect that we will from time to time incur additional indebtedness and other liabilities.

A substantial level of indebtedness could have important consequences to holders of the Notes, including the following:

making it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations with respect to our debt, including the Notes;

requiring us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to payments on our indebtedness, thereby reducing funds available for other purposes;

increasing our vulnerability to adverse economic and industry conditions, which could place us at a disadvantage compared to our competitors that have relatively less indebtedness;

limiting our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industries in which we operate; and

limiting our ability to borrow additional funds, or to dispose of assets to raise funds, if needed, for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions and other corporate purposes.

In addition, we will not be restricted under the Indenture from granting or incurring a lien on any of our assets, selling or otherwise disposing of any of our assets, paying dividends or issuing or repurchasing our securities.

There will also be no financial covenants in the Indenture. Holders of Notes will not be protected under the Indenture in the event of a highly leveraged transaction, reorganization, default under our existing indebtedness, restructuring, merger or similar transaction that may adversely affect you.

The Bank could be restricted from paying dividends to Hanmi, its sole shareholder. Payments on the Notes will depend on receipt of dividends and distributions from Hanmi's subsidiaries.

Hanmi is a bank holding company and it conducts substantially all of its operations through subsidiaries, including Hanmi Bank. The primary source of our income from which Hanmi pays its obligations is from the receipt of dividends from the Bank. The availability of dividends from the Bank is limited by various statutes and regulations. For example, Hanmi Bank may not pay Hanmi dividends if, after paying those dividends, it would fail to meet the required minimum risk-based capital and leverage ratios under the capital adequacy requirements. Under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, an insured depository institution such as Hanmi Bank is prohibited from making capital distributions, including the payment of dividends, if, after making such distribution, the institution would become undercapitalized. In addition, Hanmi Bank may declare and pay dividends out of its net profits, unless there is an impairment of capital, but must receive the approval of the DBO if the total of all dividends declared by Hanmi Bank in a calendar year would exceed the lesser of the Bank's retained earnings or the Bank's net profits for that year combined with its retained net profits for the preceding three years less prior dividends paid. The Bank had retained earnings of \$62.3 million as of December 31, 2016. In addition, the enhanced regulatory capital rules approved by bank regulators in July 2013, when fully-phased in on January 1, 2019, will require a capital

Table of Contents

conservation buffer of 2.5% above three minimum capital ratios. In January 2016, the capital conservation buffer started to phase in at 0.625% and will increase at annual increments of 0.625% until fully-phased in. Banking organizations with capital ratios above the minimum capital ratio but below the capital conservation buffer will face limitation on the payment of dividends, common stock repurchases and discretionary cash payments to executive officers. Accordingly, if the Bank does not maintain capital in excess of the buffer, distributions to the Company may be prohibited or limited and we may not have funds to make principal and interest payments on the Notes. Further, contractual or other restrictions may also limit Hanmi's subsidiaries' abilities to pay dividends or make distributions, loans or advances to us. See Item 1 Business Regulation and Supervision in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. For these reasons, Hanmi may not have access to any assets or cash flow of its subsidiaries to make principal or interest payments on the Notes.

We may not be able to generate sufficient cash to service all of our debt, including the Notes.

Our ability to make scheduled payments of principal and interest, or to satisfy our obligations in respect of our debt or to refinance our debt, will depend on our future performance of Hanmi Bank and our other subsidiaries. Prevailing economic conditions (including interest rates), regulatory constraints, including, among other things, limiting distributions to us from Hanmi Bank and required capital levels with respect to Hanmi Bank and certain of our nonbank subsidiaries, and financial, business and other factors, many of which are beyond our control, will also affect our ability to meet these needs. Hanmi's subsidiaries may not be able to generate sufficient cash flows from operations, or we may be unable to obtain future borrowings in an amount sufficient to enable us to pay our debt, or to fund our other liquidity needs. We may need to refinance all or a portion of our debt on or before maturity. We may not be able to refinance any of our debt when needed on commercially reasonable terms or at all.

Regulatory guidelines may restrict our ability to pay the principal of, and accrued and unpaid interest on, the Notes, regardless of whether we are the subject of an insolvency proceeding.

As a bank holding company, our ability to pay the principal of, and interest on, the Notes is subject to the rules and guidelines of the Federal Reserve regarding capital adequacy. We intend to treat the Notes as Tier 2 capital under these rules and guidelines. The Federal Reserve guidelines generally require us to review the effects of the cash payment of Tier 2 capital instruments, such as the Notes, on our overall financial condition. The guidelines also require that we review our net income for the current and past four quarters, and the amounts we have paid on Tier 2 capital instruments for those periods, as well as our projected rate of earnings retention. Moreover, pursuant to federal law and the Federal Reserve regulations, as a bank holding company, we are required to act as an ongoing source of financial and managerial strength to Hanmi Bank and commit resources to its support, including the guarantee of capital plans of an undercapitalized bank subsidiary. Such support may be required from Hanmi at times when it may not otherwise be in the interest of Hanmi, its shareholders, or its creditors to provide it. As a result of the foregoing, we may be unable to pay accrued interest on the Notes on one or more of the scheduled interest payment dates, or at any other time, or the principal of the Notes at the maturity of the Notes.

If we were to be the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, the bankruptcy trustee would be deemed to have assumed, and would be required to cure, immediately any deficit under any commitment we have to any of the federal banking agencies to maintain the capital of the Bank, and any other insured depository institution for which we have such a responsibility, and any claim for breach of such obligation would generally have priority over most other unsecured claims.

Holders of the Notes will have limited rights, including limited rights of acceleration, if there is an event of default.

Payment of principal on the Notes may be accelerated only in the case of certain events of bankruptcy, receivership, insolvency, liquidation, or similar proceeding involving us or Hanmi Bank. There is no automatic acceleration, or right of acceleration, in the case of default in the payment of principal of or interest on the Notes, or in the performance of any of our other obligations under the Notes or the Indenture. Pursuant to their

S-10

Table of Contents

supervisory and enforcement authority, our regulators can require the Bank to not pay dividends to us, prevent our payment of interest or principal on the Notes, and prevent our payment of dividends on our capital stock, and such limits will not permit acceleration of the Notes. See *Description of the Notes Events of Default; Acceleration of Payment; Limitation on Suits* in this prospectus supplement.

An active trading market for the Notes may not develop.

The Notes constitute a new issue of securities for which there is no existing market. We do not intend to apply for listing of the Notes on any securities exchange or for quotation of the Notes in any automated dealer quotation system. We cannot provide you with any assurance regarding whether a trading market for the Notes will develop, the ability of holders of the Notes to sell their Notes or the prices at which holders may be able to sell their Notes. The underwriters have advised us that they currently intend to make a market in the Notes. The underwriters, however, are not obligated to do so, and any market-making with respect to the Notes may be discontinued at any time without notice. You should also be aware that there may be a limited number of buyers if you decide to sell your Notes. This may affect the price you receive for your Notes or your ability to sell your Notes at all.

If a trading market for the Notes develops, changes in the debt markets, among others, could adversely affect your ability to liquidate your investment in the Notes and the market price of the Notes.

Many factors affect the trading market for, and the trading value of, the Notes. These factors include: the method of calculating the principal, premium, if any, interest or other amounts payable, if any, on the Notes; the time remaining to the maturity of the Notes; the ranking of the Notes; the redemption features of the Notes; the outstanding amount of subordinated notes with terms identical to the Notes offered hereby; the prevailing interest rates being paid by companies similar to us; our financial condition, financial performance and future prospects; the level, direction and volatility of market interest rates generally; general economic conditions of the capital markets in the United States; and geopolitical conditions and other financial, political, regulatory, and judicial events that affect the capital markets generally. The condition of the financial markets and prevailing interest rates have fluctuated significantly in the past and are likely to fluctuate in the future. Such fluctuations could adversely affect the trading market (if any) for, and the market price of, the Notes.

Because the Notes may be redeemed at our option under certain circumstances prior to their maturity, if we elect to redeem all or any portion of the Notes, you may be subject to reinvestment risk.

On or after _____, 2022, we may, at our option, redeem the Notes in whole or in part. In addition, we may also redeem the Notes prior to maturity, at our option, in whole but not in part, if (a) a change or prospective change in law occurs that could prevent us from deducting interest payable on the Notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes; (b) a subsequent event occurs that could preclude the Notes from being recognized as Tier 2 capital for regulatory capital purposes; or (c) we are required to register as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended; in each case, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes plus any accrued and unpaid interest to but excluding the redemption date. Any redemption of the Notes prior to the maturity date will be subject to the receipt of the approval of the Federal Reserve, to the extent then required under applicable laws or regulations, including capital regulations. Any such redemption may have the effect of reducing the income or return that you may receive on an investment in the Notes by reducing the term of the investment. If this occurs, you may not be able to reinvest the proceeds at an interest rate comparable to the rate paid on the Notes. See *Description of the Notes Redemption* in this prospectus supplement.

Investors should not assume we will redeem the Notes on or after the date on which they become redeemable at our option. Under Federal Reserve regulations, unless the Federal Reserve authorizes us in writing to do otherwise, we

may not redeem the Notes unless they are replaced with other Tier 2 capital instruments or unless we can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Federal Reserve that, following redemption, we will continue to hold capital commensurate with our risk.

S-11

Table of Contents

The amount of interest payable on the Notes will vary on and after _____, 2022.

As the interest rate of the Notes will be calculated based on three-month LIBOR from _____, 2022 through the maturity date or the date of earlier redemption and LIBOR is a floating rate, the interest rate on the Notes will vary after _____, 2022. From, and including the date of issuance to, but excluding _____, 2022, the Notes will bear interest at an initial fixed rate of _____ % per annum. Thereafter, the Notes will bear interest at a floating rate equal to three-month LIBOR as calculated on each applicable date of determination, plus _____ basis points (_____ %). The per annum interest rate that is determined on the relevant determination date will apply to the entire quarterly interest period following such determination date even if three-month LIBOR increases during that period.

Floating rate notes bear additional significant risks not associated with fixed rate debt securities. These risks include fluctuation of the interest rates and the possibility that you will receive an amount of interest that is lower than expected. We have no control over a number of matters, including economic, financial, and political events, that are important in determining the existence, magnitude, and longevity of market volatility and other risks and their impact on the value of, or payments made on, the floating rate Notes. In recent years, interest rates have been volatile, and that volatility may be expected in the future.

Holders of the Notes will have no rights against the publishers of LIBOR.

Holders of the Notes will have no rights against the publishers of LIBOR, even though the amount they receive on each interest payment date on and after _____, 2022 will depend upon the level of LIBOR. The publishers of LIBOR are not in any way involved in this offering and have no obligations relating to the Notes or the holders of the Notes.

Our credit ratings may not reflect all risks of an investment in the Notes, and changes in our credit ratings may adversely affect your investment in the Notes.

The credit ratings of our indebtedness are an assessment by rating agencies of our ability to pay our debts when due. These ratings are not recommendations to purchase, hold or sell the Notes, inasmuch as the ratings do not comment as to market price or suitability for a particular investor, are limited in scope, and do not address all material risks relating to an investment in the Notes, but rather reflect only the view of each rating agency at the time the rating is issued. The credit ratings assigned to the Notes may not reflect the potential impact of all risks related to structure and other factors on any trading market for, or trading value of, the Notes. In addition, real or anticipated changes in our credit ratings will generally affect the trading market for, or the trading value of, the Notes. Accordingly, you should consult your own financial and legal advisors as to the risks entailed by an investment in the Notes and the suitability of investing in the Notes in light of your particular circumstances.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds of this offering will be approximately \$ million, after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated expenses. We expect to use the net proceeds from the sale of the Notes for general corporate purposes, which may include advances to our subsidiary bank to finance its activities.

Our management will have broad discretion in the use of the net proceeds from the sale of the Notes. Pending the use of the net proceeds of this offering as described above, we may invest such proceeds in highly liquid, short-term securities or in deposit accounts at the Bank.

S-13

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our capitalization, including regulatory capital ratios, on a consolidated basis, as of December 31, 2016 on an actual basis and on an adjusted basis to give effect to the sale of the Notes offered hereby.

This information should be read together with the financial and other data in this prospectus supplement as well as the audited consolidated financial statements and related notes and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Conditions and Results of Operations in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement.

	As of December 31, 2016	
	Actual	As Adjusted
	<i>(In thousands, except share amounts)</i>	
Liabilities and Stockholders Equity		
Deposits		
Noninterest-bearing	\$ 1,203,240	\$
Interest-bearing	2,606,497	
Total deposits	3,809,737	
Accrued interest payable	2,567	
Bank's liability on acceptances	978	
FHLB advances	315,000	
Servicing liabilities	3,143	
Notes offered hereby		(1)
Subordinated debentures	18,978	
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	19,918	
Total liabilities	4,170,321	
Common stock, \$0.001 par value; authorized 62,500,000 shares; issued 32,946,197 shares (32,330,747 shares outstanding) as of December 31, 2016	33	
Additional paid-in capital	562,446	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of tax benefit of \$1,695 as of December 31, 2016	(2,394)	
Retained earnings	41,726	
Less: treasury stock, at cost; 615,450 shares as of December 31, 2016 and 592,163 shares as of December 31, 2015	(70,786)	
Total stockholders equity	531,025	
Total liabilities and stockholders equity	\$ 4,701,346	\$

Capital Adequacy ⁽²⁾	
Total risk-based capital ratio	13.86%
Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio	13.02
Common equity tier 1 capital ratio	12.73
Tier 1 leverage ratio	11.53

- (1) Represents the aggregate principal amount of the Notes, reduced by the underwriting discount (\$) and our estimated offering expenses (\$).
- (2) The as adjusted calculations for the risk-based capital ratios for Hanmi assume that the net proceeds from the sales of the Notes are invested in assets that carry a % risk weighting as of December 31, 2016.

S-14

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES

The Notes offered by this prospectus supplement will be issued by Hanmi pursuant to a subordinated indenture, dated as of _____, 2017, between Hanmi and Wilmington Trust, National Association, as Trustee, as amended and supplemented by a first supplemental indenture, dated as of _____, 2017, between Hanmi and the Trustee, which we refer to, together as, the Indenture. You may request a copy of the Indenture from us as described under *Where You Can Find More Information*. We have summarized the material terms of the Indenture and the Notes below, but the summary does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to all of the provisions of the Indenture and the Notes. The following description of the particular terms of the Indenture and the Notes supplements, and to the extent inconsistent therewith replaces, the description of the general terms and provisions of subordinated debt in the accompanying prospectus, to which description we refer you.

You should read the Indenture and the Notes because they, and not this description, define your rights as holders of the Notes.

General

The Notes issued in this offering will initially be limited to \$ _____ aggregate principal amount. Under the Indenture, the aggregate principal amount of Notes which may be sold and delivered in other offerings is unlimited.

The Notes will mature on _____, 2027 (the maturity date). The maturity of the Notes may not be accelerated in the absence of certain events of default (as such term is defined in the Indenture). There is no right to accelerate the maturity of the Notes if we fail to pay interest or principal on the Notes or any Additional Amounts (as defined below) with respect thereto or default in the performance or breach any covenant or warranty under any Note or in the Indenture. See *Events of Default; Acceleration of Payment; Limitation on Suits*.

The Notes are not convertible into, or exchangeable for, equity securities, other securities or assets of Hanmi or Hanmi Bank. There is no sinking fund for the Notes.

As a bank holding company, our ability to make payments on the Notes will depend primarily on the receipt of dividends and other distributions from Hanmi Bank. There are various regulatory restrictions on the ability of Hanmi Bank to pay dividends or make other distributions to us. See *Risk Factors The Bank could be restricted from paying dividends to Hanmi, its sole shareholder. Payments on the Notes will depend on receipt of dividends and distributions from Hanmi's subsidiaries. and Risk Factors Regulatory guidelines may restrict our ability to pay the principal of, and accrued and unpaid interest on, the Notes, regardless of whether we are the subject of an insolvency proceeding.* in this prospectus supplement and the information in Item 1. Business, under the heading Regulation and Supervision, in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016.

Neither the Indenture nor the Notes will contain any covenants or restrictions restricting the incurrence of debt, deposits or other liability by us or by our subsidiaries. The Indenture and the Notes will not contain financial covenants and will not restrict us from paying dividends or issuing or repurchasing other securities, and will not contain any provision that would provide protection to the holders of the Notes against a sudden and dramatic decline in credit quality resulting from a merger, takeover, recapitalization or similar restructuring or any other event involving us or our subsidiaries that may adversely affect our credit quality.

When we use the term business day, we mean any day except a Saturday, Sunday, a legal holiday or any other day on which banking institutions in the City of New York, New York or any place of payment are authorized or obligated by law, regulation or executive order to close.

S-15

Table of Contents

Delivery of reports, information and documents (including, without limitation, reports contemplated in this section) to the Trustee is for information purposes only, and the Trustee's receipt thereof shall not constitute actual or constructive notice of any information contained therein or determinable from information contained therein, including our compliance with covenants under the Indenture, Notes and guarantees (if any), as to which the Trustee is entitled to rely exclusively on officers' certificates.

The Notes will not be savings accounts, deposits or other obligations of Hanmi Bank or any of our non-bank subsidiaries and will not be insured or guaranteed by the FDIC or any other governmental agency or public or private insurer. The Notes will solely be obligations of Hanmi and will neither be obligations of, nor guaranteed by, any of its subsidiaries.

The Notes will be issued in minimum denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

Interest

The Notes will bear interest (a) at an initial fixed rate of $\frac{\quad}{\quad}$ % per annum, payable semi-annually in arrears on $\frac{\quad}{\quad}$ of each year (each, a fixed rate interest payment date), commencing on $\frac{\quad}{\quad}$, 2017, from and including the date of issuance to but excluding $\frac{\quad}{\quad}$, 2022, or earlier redemption, and (b) thereafter at a floating per annum rate equal to the then-current three-month LIBOR plus $\frac{\quad}{\quad}$ basis points ($\frac{\quad}{\quad}$ %), payable quarterly in arrears on $\frac{\quad}{\quad}$, $\frac{\quad}{\quad}$, and $\frac{\quad}{\quad}$ of each year (each, a floating rate interest payment date, and together with the fixed rate interest payment dates, the interest payment dates), commencing on $\frac{\quad}{\quad}$, 2022. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if three-month LIBOR is less than zero, three-month LIBOR shall be deemed to be zero.

Three-month LIBOR means, for any interest period, the offered rate for deposits in U.S. dollars having a maturity of three months that appears on the Designated LIBOR Page as of 11:00 a.m., London time, on the Reset Rate Determination Date related to such interest period. If such rate does not appear on such page at such time, then the Calculation Agent will request the principal London office of each of four major reference banks in the London interbank market, selected by Hanmi for this purpose and whose names and contact information will be provided by Hanmi to the Calculation Agent, to provide such bank's offered quotation to prime banks in the London interbank market for deposits in U.S. dollars with a term of three months as of 11:00 a.m., London time, on such Reset Rate Determination Date and in a principal amount equal to an amount for a single transaction in U.S. dollars in the relevant market at the relevant time as determined by Hanmi and provided to the Calculation Agent (a Representative Amount). If at least two such quotations are so provided, three-month LIBOR for the interest period related to such Reset Rate Determination Date will be the arithmetic mean of such quotations. If fewer than two such quotations are provided, the Calculation Agent will request each of three major banks in the City of New York selected by Hanmi for this purpose and whose names and contact information will be provided by Hanmi to the Calculation Agent, to provide such bank's rate for loans in U.S. dollars to leading European banks with a term of three months as of approximately 11:00 a.m., New York City time, on such Reset Rate Determination Date and in a Representative Amount. If at least two such rates are so provided, three-month LIBOR for the interest period related to such Reset Rate Determination Date will be the arithmetic mean of such quotations. If fewer than two such rates are so provided, then three-month LIBOR for the interest period related to such Reset Rate Determination Date will be set to equal the three-month LIBOR for the immediately preceding interest period or, in the case of the interest period commencing on the first floating rate interest payment date, $\frac{\quad}{\quad}$ %, resulting in a coupon rate of $\frac{\quad}{\quad}$ %. All percentages used in or resulting from any calculation of three-month LIBOR will be rounded, if necessary, to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with 0.000005% rounded up to 0.00001%. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that three-month LIBOR as determined in accordance with this definition is less than zero, three-month LIBOR for such interest period shall be deemed to be zero.

S-16

Table of Contents

Calculation Agent means Wilmington Trust, National Association, or any other successor appointed by us, acting as calculation agent.

Designated LIBOR Page means the display on Bloomberg Page BBAM1 (or any successor or substitute page of such service, or any successor to such service selected by Hanmi), for the purpose of displaying the London interbank rates for U.S. dollars.

London Banking Day means any day on which commercial banks are open for business (including dealings in U.S. dollars) in London.

Reset Rate Determination Date means the second London Banking Day immediately preceding the first day of each applicable interest period commencing on the first floating rate interest payment date.

Additional Amounts means any additional amounts that are required by the Indenture or the Notes, under circumstances specified by the Indenture or the Notes, to be paid by Hanmi in respect of certain taxes, duties, levies, imposts, assessments or other governmental charges imposed on holders of the Notes specified by the Indenture or the Notes and which are owing to such holders.

The determination of three-month LIBOR for each applicable interest period by the Calculation Agent will (in the absence of manifest error) be final and binding. The Calculation Agent's calculation of the amount of any interest payable after the first Reset Rate Determination Date will be maintained on file at the Calculation Agent's principal offices.

Interest shall be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months to, but excluding, , 2022 and thereafter on the basis of a 360-day year and on the basis of the actual number of days elapsed. Dollar amounts resulting from that calculation will be rounded to the nearest cent, with one-half cent being rounded upward.

Interest on the Notes, subject to certain exceptions, will accrue during the applicable interest period, which is from and including the immediately preceding interest payment date in respect of which interest has been paid or duly provided for or, if no interest has been paid or duly provided for, from and including the date of issuance of the Notes to but excluding the applicable interest payment date or the stated maturity date or date of earlier redemption, if applicable. If an interest payment date or the maturity date for the Notes falls on a day that is not a business day, the interest payment or the payment of principal and interest at maturity will be paid on the next succeeding business day, but the payments made on such dates will be treated as being made on the date that the payment was first due and the holders of the Notes will not be entitled to any further interest or other payments. In the event that a floating rate interest payment date falls on a day that is not a business day, then such floating rate interest payment date will be postponed to the next succeeding business day unless such day falls in the next succeeding calendar month, in which case such floating rate interest payment date will be accelerated to the immediately preceding business day, and, in each such case, the amounts payable on such business day will include interest accrued to but excluding such business day.

From , 2017 to but excluding , 2022, interest on each Note will be payable to the person in whose name such Note is registered for such interest at the close of business on and , immediately preceding the applicable interest payment date, whether or not such day is a business day. From , 2022 through the maturity date or the date of earlier redemption, interest on each Note will be payable to the person in whose name such Note is registered for such interest at the close of business on , , and , immediately preceding the applicable interest payment date, whether or not such day is a business day. Any such interest which is payable, but is not punctually paid or duly provided for, on any interest payment date shall cease to be payable to the holder on such

relevant record date by virtue of having been a holder on such date, and such defaulted interest may be paid by us to the person in whose name the Note is registered at the close of business on a special record date for the payment of defaulted interest. However, interest that is paid on

S-17

Table of Contents

the maturity date will be paid to the person to whom the principal will be payable. Interest will be payable by wire transfer in immediately available funds in U.S. dollars at the office of the principal paying agent or, at our option in the event the Notes are not represented by Global Notes (as defined below), by check mailed to the address of the person specified for payment in the preceding sentences.

No recourse will be available for the payment of principal of, or interest or any additional amounts on, any Note, for any claim based thereon, or otherwise in respect thereof, against any stockholder, employee, officer or director, as such, past, present or future, of Hanmi or of any successor entity.

Ranking

The Notes will rank equally with all other unsecured subordinated indebtedness Hanmi may issue in the future under the Indenture. The Notes will rank senior to \$26.8 million of outstanding principal and accrued but unpaid interest related to junior subordinated debentures issued to certain capital trusts.

The Notes will rank junior to and will be subordinated to all of our senior indebtedness, whether now outstanding, or created, assumed or incurred in the future, including all indebtedness relating to money owed to general creditors. The Notes will be obligations of Hanmi only and will not be guaranteed by any of its subsidiaries, including Hanmi Bank. The Notes will be structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities of Hanmi's subsidiaries, including Hanmi Bank, which means that creditors of Hanmi's subsidiaries (including, in the case of Hanmi Bank, its depositors) generally will be paid from those subsidiaries' assets before holders of the Notes would have any claims to those assets. The Indenture and the Notes do not limit the amount of senior indebtedness, secured indebtedness, or other liabilities having priority over the Notes that we or our subsidiaries may incur. As of December 31, 2016, on a consolidated basis, our outstanding indebtedness and other liabilities totaled approximately \$4.2 billion, which includes approximately \$3.8 billion of deposit liabilities. As of December 31, 2016, we also had approximately \$26.8 million of outstanding principal and accrued but unpaid interest related to junior subordinated debentures issued to certain capital trusts which is junior to the Notes, with a carrying value of \$19.0 million on the balance sheet as of that date. As of December 31, 2016, we had no other outstanding subordinated indebtedness. As of December 31, 2016, on an as adjusted basis to give effect to the sale of the Notes offered hereby, we would have had, on a consolidated basis, approximately \$ billion of indebtedness.

Senior indebtedness means the principal, premium, if any, unpaid interest (including interest accruing on or after the filing of any petition in bankruptcy or for reorganization relating to Hanmi), fees, charges, expenses, reimbursement and indemnification obligations, and all other amounts payable under or in respect of the following indebtedness of Hanmi:

any obligation (a) for money borrowed or purchased by Hanmi; (b) for the payment of the purchase price of any business, property or assets evidenced by a bond, note, debenture or similar instrument or agreement (including purchase money obligations), whether by purchase, merger, consolidation or otherwise; or (c) which is a direct or indirect obligation which arises as a result of banker's acceptances or bank letters of credit issued to secure obligations of Hanmi, or to secure the payment of revenue bonds issued for the benefit of Hanmi whether contingent or otherwise;

any obligation of Hanmi as lessee under any lease of property which is reflected on Hanmi's balance sheet as a capitalized lease;

any obligation to general creditors, which shall not include trade creditors;

any obligation arising from direct credit substitutes;

any obligation associated with derivative products such as interest rate and currency exchange contracts, foreign exchange contracts, commodity contracts or any similar arrangements; and

S-18

Table of Contents

all obligations of the type referred to in the first five bullet points above of other persons or entities for the payment of which Hanmi is responsible or liable as obligor, guarantor or otherwise, whether or not classified as a liability on a balance sheet prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States,

in each case, whether now outstanding, or created, assumed, incurred or guaranteed in the future. With respect to the Notes, senior indebtedness excludes any indebtedness that:

expressly states that it is junior to, or ranks equally in right of payment with, the Notes; or

is identified as junior to, or equal in right of payment with, the Notes in any board resolution establishing such series of subordinated indebtedness or in any supplemental indenture.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, and for the avoidance of doubt, if the Federal Reserve (or other competent regulatory agency or authority) promulgates any rule or issues any interpretation that defines general creditor(s), the main purpose of which is to establish criteria for determining whether the subordinated debt of a financial or bank holding company is to be included in its capital, then the term general creditors as used in the definition of senior indebtedness in the Indenture will have the meaning as described in that rule or interpretation.

Upon the liquidation, dissolution, winding up, reorganization or similar proceeding of Hanmi, Hanmi must pay to the holders of all senior indebtedness the full amounts of principal of, premium, interest and any Additional Amounts owing on, that senior indebtedness before any payment is made on the Notes. In addition, we may not make any payment in respect of the Notes in the event (a)(i) of any default, during the continuation of such default, in the payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest on any senior indebtedness beyond any applicable grace period with respect thereto or (ii) there is an event of default with respect to any senior indebtedness which permits the holders of such senior indebtedness (or a trustee or other authorized party on their behalf) to accelerate the maturity of such senior indebtedness and (b) the default is the subject of judicial proceedings or we receive notice of the default from an authorized person under the Indenture. If, after we have made those payments on our senior indebtedness there are amounts available for payment on the Notes, then we may make any payment on the Notes. Because of the subordination provisions and the obligation to pay senior indebtedness described above, in the event of insolvency of Hanmi, holders of the Notes may recover less ratably than holders of senior indebtedness and other creditors of Hanmi. With respect to the assets of a subsidiary of Hanmi, Hanmi's creditors (including holders of the Notes) are structurally subordinated to the prior claims of creditors of such subsidiary, including Hanmi Bank, except to the extent that we may be a creditor with recognized claims against such subsidiary.

Subject to the terms of the Indenture, if the Trustee or any holder of any of the Notes receives any payment or distribution of our assets in contravention of the subordination provisions applicable to the Notes before all senior indebtedness is paid in full in cash, property or securities, including by way of set-off or any such payment or distribution that may be payable or deliverable by reason of the payment of any other indebtedness of Hanmi being subordinated to the payment of the Notes, then such payment or distribution will be held in trust for the benefit of holders of senior indebtedness or their representatives to the extent necessary to make payment in full in cash or payment satisfactory to the holders of senior indebtedness of all unpaid senior indebtedness.

Events of Default; Acceleration of Payment; Limitation on Suits

The Notes and Indenture provide for only limited events upon which the principal of the Notes, together with accrued and unpaid interest and premium, if any, shall be accelerated. These events are:

a court of competent jurisdiction shall enter a decree or order for the appointment of a receiver, trustee, assignee, liquidator or similar official in any bankruptcy, receivership, insolvency, liquidation, or similar proceeding relating to Hanmi, and such decree or order shall remain unstayed and in effect for a period of 60 consecutive days;

S-19

Table of Contents

Hanmi shall consent to the appointment of a receiver, liquidator, trustee, assignee or other similar official in any bankruptcy, receivership, insolvency, liquidation or similar proceeding with respect to Hanmi; or

in the event of an appointment of a receiver, trustee, assignee, liquidator or similar official for our principal banking subsidiary, Hanmi Bank, and such appointment shall not have been rescinded for a period of 60 consecutive days from the date thereof.

The Notes and Indenture provide for a limited number of other events of default, which do not permit acceleration of the payment of principal of, and interest on, the Notes, including:

default in the payment of any interest on, or any Additional Amounts in respect of, the Notes when it becomes due and payable, and continuance of such default for a period of 30 days (unless the entire amount of such payment is deposited by Hanmi with the Trustee or with a paying agent prior to the expiration of such period of 30 days);

default in the payment of the principal (or premium, if any) on the Notes with respect thereto when it becomes due and payable (whether at the stated maturity or by declaration of acceleration, call for redemption or otherwise); or

default in the performance or breach of any covenant or warranty of Hanmi in the Indenture, and the continuance of such default or breach (without such default or breach having been waived in accordance with the provisions of the Indenture) for a period of 90 days after there has been given, by registered or certified mail, to Hanmi by the Trustee or to Hanmi and the Trustee by the holders of not less than 25.0% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes a written notice specifying such default or breach and requiring it to be remedied and stating that such notice is a Notice of Default under the Indenture.

There is no right of acceleration in the case of a default in the payment of principal of or interest or Additional Amounts on the Notes or in our nonperformance or breach of any other covenant or warranty under the Notes or the Indenture. If we default in our obligation to pay any interest on, or Additional Amounts with respect to, the Notes when due and payable and such default continues for a period of 30 days, or if we default in our obligation to pay the principal amount of the Notes when it becomes due and payable (whether at the stated maturity or by declaration of acceleration, call for redemption or otherwise), then the Trustee may, subject to certain limitations and conditions, demand Hanmi pay to the Trustee, for the benefit of the holders of the Notes, the whole amount then due and payable on the Notes for principal and interest and, to the extent that payment of such interest shall be legally enforceable, interest on any overdue principal and any overdue interest at the rate or rates prescribed therefor in the Notes and, in addition thereto, such further amount as shall be sufficient to cover the costs and expenses of collection, including the reasonable compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Trustee, its agents and counsel.

No holder of Notes will have any right to institute any proceeding, judicial or otherwise, with respect to the Indenture, or for the appointment of a receiver or trustee, or for any other remedy under the Indenture, unless:

such holder has previously given written notice to the Trustee of a continuing event of default with respect to the Notes;

the holders of not less than 25.0% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes shall have made written request to the Trustee to institute proceedings in respect of such event of default in its own name as Trustee under the Indenture;

such holder or holders have offered to the Trustee security and indemnity satisfactory to it against the costs, expenses, and liabilities to be incurred in complying with such request;

the Trustee for 60 days after its receipt of such notice, request, and offer of security and indemnity has failed to institute any such proceeding; and

no direction inconsistent with such written request has been given to the Trustee during such 60-day period by the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes.

S-20

Table of Contents

In any event, the Indenture provides that no one or more of such holders shall have any right in any manner whatsoever by virtue of, or by availing of, any provision of the Indenture to affect, disturb or prejudice the rights of any other of such holders of the Notes, or to obtain or to seek to obtain priority or preference over any other of such holders or to enforce any right under the Indenture, except in the manner provided in the Indenture and for the equal and ratable benefit of all such holders of Notes.

Redemption

We may, at our option, beginning with the interest payment date of _____, 2022, and on any interest payment date thereafter, redeem the Notes, in whole or in part, from time to time, subject to obtaining the prior approval of the Federal Reserve to the extent such approval is then required under the rules of the Federal Reserve, at a price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes being redeemed plus accrued but unpaid interest to, but excluding, such date of redemption. The Notes may not otherwise be redeemed prior to maturity, except that we may also, at our option, redeem the Notes at any time, including before _____, 2022, in whole, but not in part, from time to time, at a price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes being redeemed plus accrued but unpaid interest to, but excluding, such date of redemption upon the occurrence of:

a Tax Event, defined in the Indenture to mean the receipt by us of an opinion of independent tax counsel to the effect that, as a result of (a) an amendment to, or change (including any announced prospective change) in, the laws or any regulations thereunder of the United States or any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof or therein, or (b) any official administrative pronouncement or judicial decision interpreting or applying such laws or regulations, which amendment or change becomes effective or which pronouncement or decision is announced on or after the date of original issuance of the Notes, in each case, there is more than an insubstantial risk that the interest payable by us on the Notes is not, or within 90 days of the date of such opinion will not be, deductible by us, in whole or in part, for United States federal income tax purposes;

a Tier 2 Capital Event, defined in the Indenture to mean Hanmi's good faith determination (as evidenced by a resolution of the board of directors of Hanmi to that effect) that, as a result of (a) any amendment to, or change (including any announced prospective change) in, the laws or any regulations thereunder of the United States or any rules, guidelines or policies of an applicable regulatory authority for Hanmi or (b) any official administrative pronouncement or judicial decision interpreting or applying such laws or regulations, which amendment or change is effective or which pronouncement or decision is announced on or after the date of original issuance of the Notes, in each case, there is more than an insubstantial risk that Hanmi will not be entitled to treat the Notes then outstanding as Tier 2 capital (or its then equivalent if we were subject to such capital requirement) for purposes of capital adequacy requirements of the Federal Reserve (or any successor regulatory authority with jurisdiction over bank holding companies), as then in effect and applicable, for so long as any Note is outstanding; or

Hanmi becoming required to register as an investment company pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.

Any such redemption will be at a redemption price equal to the principal amount of the Notes plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, such date of redemption. Any redemption, call or repurchase of the Notes following one of these events would currently require prior approval of the Federal Reserve.

In the event of any redemption of the Notes, we will deliver or cause to be delivered a notice of redemption (which notice may be conditional in our discretion on one or more conditions precedent, and the redemption date may be delayed until such time as any or all of such conditions have been satisfied or revoked by us if we determine that such conditions will not be satisfied) by first-class mail, or in the event the Notes are represented by Global Notes, electronically in accordance with DTC's procedures, to each holder of Notes not less than 15 nor more than 60 days prior to the redemption date.

S-21

Table of Contents

Any partial redemption will be made in accordance with DTC's applicable procedures among all of the holders of the Notes. If any Note is to be redeemed in part only, the notice of redemption relating to such Note shall state it is a partial redemption and the portion of the principal amount thereof to be redeemed. A replacement Note in principal amount equal to the unredeemed portion thereof will be issued in the name of the holder thereof upon cancellation of the original Note. The Notes are not subject to redemption or prepayment at the option of the holders of the Notes.

Modification and Waiver

The Indenture provides that we and the Trustee may amend or supplement the Indenture or the Notes with, or, in certain cases, without the consent of the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes; *provided*, that any amendment or supplement may not, without the consent of the holder of each outstanding Note affected thereby:

reduce the percentage in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes, the consent of whose holders is required to amend or supplement the Indenture or any supplemental indenture, waive compliance with certain provisions of the Indenture or certain defaults and the consequences thereof under the Indenture, or any change to such defaults which require such consent;

reduce the rate of or extend the time for payment of interest (including default interest) on any Note or any Additional Amounts owed thereon;

reduce the principal or change the stated maturity of any Note;

waive a default or event of default in the payment of the principal of, interest or any Additional Amounts, if any, on any Note (except a rescission of acceleration of the Notes by the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes and a waiver of the payment default that resulted from such acceleration);

make any change to certain provisions of the Indenture relating to, among other things, holders' rights to receive payment of the principal of and interest on the Notes and to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment and waivers of past defaults;

make the principal of or interest, if any, on any Note or any Additional Amount with respect thereto payable in any currency other than that stated in the Note; or

waive or change any redemption payment with respect to any Notes.

In addition, the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes may, on behalf of all holders of Notes, waive compliance by us with certain terms, conditions and provisions of the Indenture, as well as any past default and/or the consequences of default, other than any default in the payment of principal of or interest on any Note (provided that the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes may rescind

an acceleration and its consequences, including any related payment default that resulted from such acceleration) or any breach in respect of a covenant or provision that cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the holder of each outstanding Note.

In addition, we and the Trustee may modify and amend the Indenture without the consent of any holders of Notes for any of the following purposes:

to evidence the succession of another person to Hanmi as obligor under the Indenture and the assumption by any such successor of the covenants and obligations of Hanmi in the Indenture and in the Notes or evidence the addition or release of any guarantor in accordance with the Indenture or any supplemental indenture;

to add to the covenants of Hanmi such further covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions shall be for the protection of the holders of the Notes and to make the occurrence, or the occurrence and continuance, of a default in any of such additional covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions an event of default

S-22

Table of Contents

permitting the enforcement of all or any of the several remedies provided in the Indenture, with such period of grace, if any, and subject to such conditions as such supplemental indenture may provide;

to surrender any right or power conferred upon Hanmi;

to add or change any of the provisions of the Indenture to such extent as shall be necessary to permit or facilitate the issuance of notes in uncertificated or global form;

to provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor Trustee or facilitate the administration of the trust under the Indenture by more than one Trustee;

to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency in the Indenture;

to add any additional events of default (and if such events of default are to be for less than all series of notes, stating that such are expressly being included solely for the benefit of such series) for the benefit of the holders of the Notes;

to modify, eliminate or add to the provisions of the Indenture, if the change or elimination (i) becomes effective only when there are no debt securities outstanding of any series created prior to the change or elimination that are entitled to the benefit of the changed or eliminated provision or (ii) shall not apply to the any debt securities outstanding at the time of such change or elimination;

to establish the form of the Notes and to provide for the issuance of any other series of notes under the Indenture;

to comply with any requirements of the SEC in connection with the qualification of the Indenture under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended;

to modify, eliminate or add to the provisions of the Indenture to such extent as shall be necessary to effect the qualification of the Indenture under the Trust Indenture Act, or under any similar federal statute hereafter enacted, and to add to the Indenture such other provisions as may be expressly permitted by the Trust Indenture Act, excluding certain provisions thereof; or

to make any change that does not adversely affect the rights of any holder of notes of any series issued under the Indenture.

The Trustee shall be entitled to receive an officer's certificate and opinion of counsel confirming that all conditions precedent are satisfied with respect to any supplemental indenture, that such supplemental indenture is authorized and permitted and that such supplemental indenture is the legal, valid and binding obligation of Hanmi, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms.

Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance

We may choose to either discharge our obligations under the Indenture and the Notes in a legal defeasance or to release ourselves from certain of our covenant restrictions under the Indenture and the Notes in a covenant defeasance (in each case, except for certain surviving rights of the Trustee and our obligations in connection therewith). We may do so after we irrevocably deposit with the Trustee for the benefit of the holders of the Notes, in trust, cash and/or U.S. government securities in an amount that, which through the payment of interest and principal in accordance with their terms, will provide, not later than one day before the due date of any payment of money, an amount in cash, which is sufficient to make all payments of principal of, interest, and premiums, if any, on the Notes on the dates such installments of interest or principal are due or any other sums due on the stated maturity or a redemption date of the Notes. If we choose the legal defeasance option, the holders of the Notes will not be entitled to the benefits of the Indenture except for certain limited rights, including registration of transfer and exchange of Notes, replacement of lost, stolen or mutilated Notes and the right to receive payments of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on such Notes when such payments are due.

S-23

Table of Contents

We may discharge our obligations under the Indenture or release ourselves from covenant restrictions only if we meet certain requirements. Among other things, we must deliver to the Trustee an opinion of our legal counsel to the effect that holders of the Notes will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such deposit, defeasance and discharge and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amount, in the same manner and at the same times, as would have been the case if such deposit, defeasance and discharge had not occurred. In the case of legal defeasance only, this opinion must be based on either a ruling received from or published by the Internal Revenue Service (the IRS) or a change in the applicable federal income tax law. We may not have a default or event of default under the Indenture or the Notes on the date of deposit or during the period ending 120 days after such deposit. The deposit may not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under, the Indenture or any of our agreements to which we are a party or by which we are bound. The discharge may not cause the Trustee to have a conflicting interest for purposes of the Trust Indenture Act and may not result in our becoming an investment company in violation of the Investment Company Act of 1940.

Any defeasance of the Notes pursuant to the Indenture shall be subject to our obtaining the prior approval of the Federal Reserve and any additional requirements that the Federal Reserve may impose with respect to defeasance of the Notes. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if, due to a change in law, regulation or policy subsequent to the issue date of the Notes the Federal Reserve does not require that defeasance of instruments be subject to Federal Reserve approval in order for the instrument to be accorded Tier 2 capital treatment, then no such approval of the Federal Reserve will be required for such defeasance.

Satisfaction and Discharge

We may discharge our obligations under the Indenture and the Notes (except for certain surviving rights of the Trustee and our obligations in connection therewith) if: (a) all outstanding Notes and all other outstanding notes issued under the Indenture (i) have been delivered for cancellation, or (ii) (1) have become due and payable, (2) will become due and payable at their stated maturity within one year, (3) are to be called for redemption within one year under arrangements satisfactory to the Trustee for the giving of notice and redemption by the Trustee or (4) are deemed paid and discharged in a legal defeasance described above (and in the case of clauses (1), (2) and (3), we have irrevocably deposited with the Trustee an amount sufficient to pay and discharge the principal of (and premium, if any), and interest on all outstanding Notes and any other sums due on the stated maturity date or redemption date, as the case may be); (b) we have paid all other sums payable by us under the Indenture; and (c) we have delivered an officer's certificate and opinion of counsel confirming that all conditions precedent with respect to the satisfaction and discharge of the Indenture have been satisfied.

Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets

The Indenture provides that we may not consolidate with or merge with or into, or convey, transfer or lease all or substantially all of our properties and assets to any person, and we may not permit any other person to consolidate with or merge into us or to convey, transfer or lease all or substantially all of its properties and assets to us, unless:

we are the surviving person or the successor person (if not us), is a corporation organized and validly existing under the laws of any United States domestic jurisdiction and expressly assumes, by a supplemental indenture, our obligations on the Notes and under the Indenture;

immediately after giving effect to such transaction, and treating any indebtedness that becomes an obligation of us or our subsidiaries as a result of such transaction as having been incurred by us or such subsidiary at the effective date of such transaction, no default or event of default under the Indenture shall have occurred and be continuing; and

we have complied with our obligations to deliver certain documentation to the Trustee, including an officers certificate and opinion of counsel each stating that such proposed transaction and any supplemental indenture comply with the Indenture.

S-24

Table of Contents

Further Issues

We may, from time to time, without notice to or the consent of the holders of the Notes, create and issue further notes ranking equally with the Notes and with identical terms in all respects (or in all respects except for the date of offering, the offering price and the first interest payment date); *provided* that such further notes either shall be fungible with the original Notes for federal income tax purposes or shall be issued under a different CUSIP number. Such further notes will be consolidated and form a single series with the Notes and have the same terms as to status, redemption or otherwise as the Notes.

The Trustee may conclusively rely upon certificates, opinions or other documents furnished to it under the Indenture and shall have no responsibility to confirm or investigate the accuracy of mathematical calculations or other facts stated therein. The Trustee shall have no responsibility for monitoring Hanmi's compliance with any of its covenants under the Indenture.

Paying Agent

We may appoint one or more financial institutions to act as our paying agents, at whose designated offices the Notes in non-global form may be surrendered for payment at their maturity. We call each of those offices a paying agent. We may add, replace or terminate paying agents from time to time. We may also choose to act as our own paying agent. Initially, we have appointed the Trustee, at its office at 1100 North Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19890, as the paying agent for the Notes. We must notify the Trustee of changes in the paying agents.

Governing Law

The Indenture provides that the Notes and the Indenture will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

Tier 2 Capital

The Notes are intended to qualify as Tier 2 capital under the capital rules established by the Federal Reserve for bank holding companies. The rules set forth specific criteria for instruments to qualify as Tier 2 capital. Among other things, the Notes must:

be unsecured;

have a minimum original maturity of at least five years;

be subordinated to Hanmi Bank's and each of our non-bank subsidiaries' depositors and general creditors;

not contain provisions permitting the holders of the Notes to accelerate payment of principal or interest prior to maturity except in the event of bankruptcy, receivership, insolvency, liquidation or similar proceedings of Hanmi or Hanmi Bank;

be ineligible as collateral for a loan by us or Hanmi Bank;

only be callable after a minimum of five years following issuance, except upon the occurrence of certain special events, as described above, and, in any case, subject to obtaining the prior approval of the Federal Reserve or other primary federal regulator to the extent such approval is then required under the rules of the Federal Reserve or such other regulator; and

unless the Federal Reserve authorizes us to do otherwise in writing, not be redeemed or repurchased prior to the maturity date unless they are replaced with other Tier 2 capital instruments or unless we can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Federal Reserve that following redemption, we will continue to hold capital commensurate with our risk.

S-25

Table of Contents**Clearance and Settlement**

The Notes will be represented by one or more permanent global certificates, which we refer to individually as a Global Note and collectively as the Global Notes, deposited with, or on behalf of DTC and registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee). The Notes will be available for purchase in minimum denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof in book-entry form only. So long as DTC or any successor depository, which we refer to collectively as the Depository or its nominee is the registered owner of the Global Notes, the Depository, or such nominee, as the case may be, will be considered to be the sole owner or holder of the Notes for all purposes of the Indenture. Beneficial interests in the Global Notes will be represented through book-entry accounts of financial institutions acting on behalf of beneficial owners as direct and indirect participants in DTC. Investors may not elect to receive a certificate representing their Notes while the Notes are held by a Depository. Investors may elect to hold interests in the Global Notes through DTC either directly if they are participants in DTC or indirectly through organizations that are participants in DTC.

The laws of some jurisdictions may require that some purchasers of securities take physical delivery of securities in definitive form. These laws may impair the ability to transfer beneficial interests in the Notes, so long as the corresponding securities are represented by Global Notes.

DTC has advised us that it is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and a clearing agency registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC holds securities that its direct participants deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation, which, in turn, is owned by a number of direct participants of DTC and members of the National Securities Clearing Corporation, Fixed Income Clearing Corporation and Emerging Markets Clearing Corporation, as well as by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., the American Stock Exchange LLC and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. Access to the DTC system is also available to others, referred to as indirect participants, such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a direct or indirect custodial relationship with a direct participant. The rules applicable to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC.

Purchases of securities under the DTC system must be made by or through direct participants, which will receive a credit for the securities on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each beneficial owner of securities will be recorded on the direct or indirect participants' records. Beneficial owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the direct or indirect participant through which the beneficial owner entered into the transaction. Under a book-entry format, holders may experience some delay in their receipt of payments, as such payments will be forwarded by the depository to Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC. DTC will forward the payments to its participants, who will then forward them to indirect participants or holders. Beneficial owners of securities other than DTC or its nominees will not be recognized by the relevant registrar, transfer agent, paying agent or trustee as registered holders of the securities entitled to the benefits of the Indenture. Beneficial owners that are not participants will be permitted to exercise their rights only indirectly through and according to the procedures of participants and, if applicable, indirect participants.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all securities deposited by direct participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of securities with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or

S-26

Table of Contents

such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual beneficial owners of the securities; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the direct participants to whose accounts the securities are credited, which may or may not be the beneficial owners. The direct and indirect participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of redemption notices and other communications by DTC to direct participants, by direct participants to indirect participants, and by direct and indirect participants to beneficial owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. If less than all of the securities of any class are being redeemed, DTC will determine the amount of the interest of each direct participant to be redeemed in accordance with its then current procedures.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to any securities unless authorized by a direct participant in accordance with DTC's procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an omnibus proxy to the issuer as soon as possible after the record date. The omnibus proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those direct participants to whose accounts securities are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the omnibus proxy).

DTC may discontinue providing its services as securities depository with respect to the Notes at any time by giving reasonable notice to the issuer or its agent. Under these circumstances, in the event that a successor securities depository is not obtained, certificates for the Notes are required to be printed and delivered. We may decide to discontinue the use of the system of book-entry-only transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, certificates for the Notes will be printed and delivered to DTC.

As long as DTC or its nominee is the registered owner of the Global Notes, DTC or its nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner and holder of the Global Notes and all securities represented by these certificates for all purposes under the instruments governing the rights and obligations of holders of such securities. Except in the limited circumstances referred to above, owners of beneficial interests in Global Notes:

will not be entitled to have such global security certificates or the securities represented by these certificates registered in their names;

will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of securities certificates in exchange for beneficial interests in global security certificates; and

will not be considered to be owners or holders of the global security certificates or any securities represented by these certificates for any purpose under the instruments governing the rights and obligations of holders of such securities.

All redemption proceeds, distributions and dividend payments on the securities represented by the Global Notes and all transfers and deliveries of such securities will be made to DTC or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered holder of the securities. DTC's practice is to credit direct participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the issuer or its agent, on the payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by participants to beneficial owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in street name, and will be the responsibility of that participant and not of DTC, the depository, the issuer,

the Trustee or any of their agents, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of redemption proceeds, distributions and dividend payments to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the issuer or its agent, disbursement of such payments to direct participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the beneficial owners will be the responsibility of direct and indirect participants.

Ownership of beneficial interests in the Global Notes will be limited to participants or persons that may hold beneficial interests through institutions that have accounts with DTC or its nominee. Ownership of beneficial

S-27

Table of Contents

interests in Global Notes will be shown only on, and the transfer of those ownership interests will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC or its nominee, with respect to participants' interests, or any participant, with respect to interests of persons held by the participant on their behalf. Payments, transfers, deliveries, exchanges, redemptions and other matters relating to beneficial interests in Global Notes may be subject to various policies and procedures adopted by DTC from time to time. None of Hanmi, the Trustee or any agent for any of them will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of DTC's or any direct or indirect participant's records relating to, or for payments made on account of, beneficial interests in Global Notes, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any of DTC's records or any direct or indirect participant's records relating to these beneficial ownership interests.

Although DTC has agreed to the foregoing procedures in order to facilitate transfer of interests in the Global Notes among participants, DTC is under no obligation to perform or continue to perform these procedures, and these procedures may be discontinued at any time. Neither Hanmi nor the Trustee will have any responsibility for the performance by DTC or its direct participants or indirect participants under the rules and procedures governing DTC.

Because DTC can act only on behalf of direct participants, who in turn act only on behalf of direct or indirect participants, and certain banks, trust companies and other persons approved by it, the ability of a beneficial owner of securities to pledge them to persons or entities that do not participate in the DTC system may be limited due to the unavailability of physical certificates for the securities.

DTC has advised us that it will take any action permitted to be taken by a registered holder of any securities under the Indenture, only at the direction of one or more participants to whose accounts with DTC the relevant securities are credited.

The information in this section concerning DTC and its book-entry system has been obtained from sources that we believe to be accurate, but we assume no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

Trustee

Wilmington Trust, National Association, will act as Trustee under the Indenture. The Trustee has all of the duties and responsibilities specified under the Trust Indenture Act. Other than its duties in a case of an event of default, the Trustee is not obligated to exercise any of its rights or powers under the Indenture at the request or direction of the holders of the Notes, unless the holders have offered to the Trustee security or indemnity satisfactory to the Trustee. From time to time, we, and one or more of our subsidiaries, may maintain deposit accounts and conduct other banking transactions, including lending transactions, with the Trustee in the ordinary course of business. Additionally, we maintain banking relationships with the Trustee and its affiliates in the ordinary course of business. These banking relationships include the Trustee serving as trustee under indentures involving certain of our trust preferred securities.

Notices

Any notices required to be given to the holders of the Notes will be given to the Trustee. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Indenture or any Note, where the Indenture or any Note provides for notice of any event or any other communication (including any notice of redemption or repurchase) to a holder of a Note (whether by mail or otherwise), such notice shall be sufficiently given if given to DTC (or its designee) pursuant to the applicable procedures from DTC or its designee, including by electronic mail in accordance with accepted practices at DTC.

Table of Contents**UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

The following is a summary of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations generally applicable to the ownership, sale or other disposition of the Notes by U.S. Holders (as defined below) and Non-U.S. Holders (as defined below), but does not purport to be a complete analysis of all the potential tax considerations. This summary is based upon the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), the U.S. federal income tax regulations (the U.S. Treasury Regulations) promulgated thereunder, and administrative and judicial interpretations thereof, all as of the date hereof and all of which are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis. This summary is limited to the U.S. federal income tax consequences with respect to Notes that were purchased by an initial holder at their original issue price for cash and that are held as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code (generally, property held for investment). This summary does not address the tax consequences to subsequent purchasers of the Notes. This summary does not purport to deal with all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that might be relevant to particular holders in light of their circumstances or status, nor does it address specific tax consequences that may be relevant to particular holders (including, for example, financial institutions, regulated investment companies, real estate investment trusts, broker-dealers, traders in securities that elect mark-to-market treatment, insurance companies, partnerships or other entities treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes and their partners, U.S. expatriates, controlled foreign corporations, passive foreign investment companies, tax-exempt organizations (including private foundations), U.S. Holders that have a functional currency other than the U.S. dollar, or persons who hold the Notes as part of a straddle, hedge, conversion or other integrated financial transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes). In addition, this summary does not address U.S. federal alternative minimum, Medicare, estate and gift tax consequences or consequences under the tax laws of any state, local or foreign jurisdiction. We have not sought, and will not seek, any ruling from the IRS with respect to the statements made and the conclusions reached in this summary, and we cannot assure you that the IRS will agree with such statements and conclusions.

THIS SUMMARY IS FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED TO CONSTITUTE A COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF ALL TAX CONSEQUENCES FOR HOLDERS RELATING TO OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF THE NOTES. PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF THE NOTES ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS CONCERNING THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION AND OTHER TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF ACQUIRING, OWNING AND DISPOSING OF THE NOTES, AS WELL AS THE APPLICATION OF STATE, LOCAL AND FOREIGN INCOME AND OTHER TAX LAWS.

For purposes of the following summary, a U.S. Holder is a beneficial owner of the Notes that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (i) a citizen or individual resident of the United States; (ii) a corporation or other entity taxable as a corporation created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof, or the District of Columbia; (iii) an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income tax regardless of its source; or (iv) a trust, if a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the trust's administration and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all of its substantial decisions or if a valid election to be treated as a U.S. person is in effect with respect to such trust. A Non-U.S. Holder is a beneficial owner of the Notes that is neither a U.S. Holder nor a partnership (or other pass-through entity) for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If an entity or an arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds Notes, the tax treatment of a partner in the partnership will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. If you are a partner in a partnership holding the Notes, you are urged to consult your tax advisor.

U.S. Federal Income Taxation of U.S. Holders

The following discussion of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the Notes by a U.S. Holder assumes the Notes will not be issued with original issue discount for U.S. federal income

tax purposes.

S-29

Table of Contents

Payments of Stated Interest. Based on the interest rate characteristics of the Notes, we intend to treat the Notes as variable rate debt instruments (VRDIs) for U.S. federal income tax purposes and this discussion assumes such characterization to be correct. Stated interest on a Note should constitute qualified stated interest under the U.S. Treasury Regulations applicable to VRDIs, and as such will be taxable to a U.S. Holder as ordinary income at the time such interest is received or accrued, depending on the holder's regular method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Disposition of the Notes. Upon the redemption, sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of a Note, a U.S. Holder generally will recognize taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between (i) the sum of all cash plus the fair market value of all other property received on such disposition (except to the extent such cash or other property is attributable to accrued but unpaid interest, which is treated as interest as described above) and (ii) such holder's adjusted tax basis in the Note. A U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in a Note generally will equal the cost of the Note to such holder. Any gain or loss recognized on the disposition of a Note generally will be capital gain or loss, and will be long-term capital gain or loss if, at the time of such disposition, the U.S. Holder's holding period for the Note is more than one year. Long-term capital gain recognized by a non-corporate U.S. Holder (such as an individual) generally is subject to tax at a lower rate than short-term capital gain or ordinary income. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to significant limitations.

U.S. Federal Income Taxation of Non-U.S. Holders

The following discussion of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the Notes by a Non-U.S. Holder assumes the Notes will not be issued with original issue discount for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Payment of Interest. Subject to any withholding under FATCA (as defined and discussed below), all payments of interest to a Non-U.S. Holder will be exempt from U.S. federal income and withholding tax, provided that: (i) such Non-U.S. Holder does not own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of our stock entitled to vote; (ii) such Non-U.S. Holder is not a controlled foreign corporation related, directly or indirectly, to us through sufficient stock ownership; (iii) such interest is not effectively connected with such Non-U.S. Holder's conduct of a U.S. trade or business; and (iv) such Non-U.S. Holder certifies, under penalties of perjury, to the applicable withholding agent on IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E (or appropriate substitute form) that it is not a U.S. person and provides its name, address and certain other required information, or certain other certification requirements are satisfied.

If a Non-U.S. Holder cannot satisfy the requirements described above, payments of interest will be subject to the 30% U.S. federal withholding tax, unless such Non-U.S. Holder provides the applicable withholding agent with a properly executed (i) IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E (or appropriate substitute form) claiming an exemption from or reduction in withholding tax under the benefit of an applicable income tax treaty or (ii) IRS Form W-8ECI (or appropriate substitute form) stating that interest paid or accrued on the Notes is not subject to withholding tax because it is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the U.S..

If a Non-U.S. Holder is engaged in a trade or business in the U.S., and if interest on the Notes is effectively connected with the conduct of such trade or business (and, if a tax treaty applies, is attributable to a permanent establishment), the Non-U.S. Holder will generally be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net income basis on such interest in the same manner as if the Non-U.S. Holder were a U.S. person, unless an applicable income tax treaty provides otherwise. In addition, if such a Non-U.S. Holder is a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, such holder may also be subject to a branch profits tax equal to 30% (or such lower rate provided by an applicable treaty) of its effectively connected earnings and profits for the taxable year, subject to certain adjustments.

Disposition of the Notes. Subject to any withholding under FATCA (as defined and discussed below), and except with respect to accrued but unpaid interest, which will be taxable as described above under Payment of

S-30

Table of Contents

Interest, a Non-U.S. Holder will generally not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax on the receipt of payments of principal on a Note, or on any gain recognized upon the sale, exchange, retirement, redemption or other taxable disposition of a Note, unless in the case of gain (i) such gain is effectively connected with the conduct by such Non-U.S. Holder of a trade or business within the U.S. (in which case such gain will be taxed as discussed below) or (ii) such Non-U.S. Holder is an individual who is present in the U.S. for 183 days or more in the taxable year of disposition, and certain other conditions are met (in which case such Non-U.S. Holder will be subject to a flat 30% tax on the gain derived from the sale, which may be offset by U.S.-source capital losses).

If a Non-U.S. Holder is engaged in a trade or business in the United States, and if gain recognized on the sale, exchange, retirement, redemption or other taxable disposition of the Notes, is effectively connected with the conduct of such trade or business (and, if a tax treaty applies, is attributable to a permanent establishment), the Non-U.S. Holder will generally be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net income basis on such gain in the same manner as if the Non-U.S. Holder were a U.S. person, unless an applicable income tax treaty provides otherwise. In addition, if such a Non-U.S. Holder is a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, such holder may also be subject to a branch profits tax equal to 30% (or such lower rate provided by an applicable treaty) of its effectively connected earnings and profits for the taxable year, subject to certain adjustments.

Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act. Sections 1471 through 1474 of the Code and the Treasury Regulations and administrative guidance promulgated thereunder (commonly referred as the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act or FATCA) generally impose withholding at a rate of 30% in certain circumstances on (i) interest payable on, and (ii) after December 31, 2018, gross proceeds from the disposition (including a redemption or retirement) of, the Notes held by or through certain financial institutions (including investment funds), unless such institution (x) enters into, and complies with, an agreement with the IRS to report, on an annual basis, information with respect to interests in, and accounts maintained by, the institution that are owned by certain U.S. persons or by certain non-U.S. entities that are wholly or partially owned by U.S. persons and to withhold on certain payments, or (y) if required under an intergovernmental agreement between the U.S. and an applicable foreign country, reports such information to its local tax authority, which will then exchange such information with the U.S. authorities. An intergovernmental agreement between the U.S. and applicable foreign country may modify these requirements. Accordingly, the entity through which the Notes are held will affect the determination of whether such withholding is required. Similarly, (i) interest payable on, and (ii) after December 31, 2018, gross proceeds from the disposition (including a redemption or retirement) of, the Notes held by or through an entity that is a non-financial non-U.S. entity that does not qualify under certain exemptions generally will be subject to withholding at a rate of 30%, unless such entity either (x) certifies that such entity does not have any substantial U.S. owners or (y) provides certain information regarding the entity's substantial U.S. owners, which we will in turn provide to the United States Department of the Treasury. We will not pay any additional amounts to Non-U.S. Holders in respect of any amounts withheld. Prospective investors should consult their tax advisors regarding the possible implications of FATCA on an investment in the Notes.

Table of Contents**BENEFIT PLAN/ERISA CONSIDERATIONS**

The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA), and Section 4975 of the Code, impose certain requirements on: (a) employee benefit plans subject to Part 4 of Subtitle B of Title I of ERISA; (b) individual retirement accounts (IRAs), Keogh plans or other plans and arrangements subject to Section 4975 of the Code; (c) entities (including certain insurance company general accounts) whose underlying assets include plan assets (as defined in U.S. Department of Labor regulation 29 C.F.R. Section 2510.3-101, as modified by Section 3(42) of ERISA (the plan asset regulations)) by reason of any such plan s or arrangement s investment therein (we refer to the foregoing collectively as Plans); and (d) persons who are fiduciaries with respect to Plans. In addition, certain governmental, not for profit, church and non-U.S. plans (Non-ERISA Arrangements) are not subject to ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code but may be subject to other laws that are substantially similar to ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code (each, a Similar Law).

The following summarizes certain aspects of ERISA, the Code and Similar Laws that may affect a decision by Plans or Non-ERISA Arrangements to invest in the Notes. The following discussion is general in nature and not intended to be a complete discussion of the applicable laws pertaining to a Plan s or Non-ERISA Arrangement s decision to invest and is not intended to be legal advice. In addition, the following discussion is based on the applicable law and regulations in effect as of the date of this prospectus supplement, and nothing herein shall be construed as an obligation to update this summary as a result of any changes in the applicable law or regulations. Fiduciaries of any Plans and Non-ERISA Arrangements should consult their own legal counsel before purchasing the Notes. References herein to the purchase, holding or disposition of Notes also refer to the purchase, holding or disposition of any beneficial interest in the Notes.

A Plan fiduciary should consider whether an investment in the Notes satisfies the requirements set forth in Part 4 of Subtitle B of Title I of ERISA, including, as applicable, the requirements that (a) the investment satisfy the prudence and diversification standards of ERISA, (b) the investment be solely in the interests of the participants and beneficiaries of the Plan, (c) the investment be permissible under the terms of the Plan s investment policies and governing instruments and (d) the investment be for the exclusive purpose of providing benefits to the participants and beneficiaries of the Plan and defraying the reasonable expenses of administering the Plan. In determining whether an investment in the Notes is prudent for ERISA purposes, a Plan fiduciary should consider all relevant facts and circumstances, including, without limitation, the limitations imposed on transferability, whether the investment provides sufficient liquidity in light of the foreseeable needs of the Plan, the tax consequences of the investment and whether the investment is reasonably designed, as part of the Plan s portfolio, to further the Plan s purposes, taking into consideration the risk of loss and the opportunity for gain (or other return) associated with the investment. A fiduciary of a Non-ERISA Arrangement should consider whether an investment in the Notes satisfies its obligations under Similar Laws.

Pursuant to the plan asset regulations, if a Plan holds an equity interest in an entity, the Plan s assets are deemed to include the underlying assets of the entity, unless an exception applies under the plan asset regulations (i.e., the assets of the entity are plan assets). For these purposes an equity interest is any interest other than an interest that is indebtedness under applicable local law, and which has no substantial equity features. We believe that the Notes will be treated as indebtedness without substantial equity features for purposes of the plan asset regulations (although we make no assurances to that effect). This assessment is based in part upon the traditional debt features of the Notes (although by no means free from doubt). Accordingly, we believe that our assets should not be treated as plan assets under the plan asset regulations as a result of investment in the Notes by Plans.

In addition to ERISA s general fiduciary standards, Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code prohibit certain transactions involving the assets of a Plan and persons who have specified relationships to the Plan, i.e., parties

in interest as defined in ERISA or disqualified persons as defined in Section 4975 of the Code (we refer to the foregoing collectively as parties in interest) unless exemptive relief is available under applicable law or an exemption issued by the U.S. Department of Labor. Parties in interest that engage in a non-exempt prohibited transaction may be subject to excise taxes and other penalties and liabilities under ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code.

S-32

Table of Contents

Without regard to whether the Notes may be treated as debt for ERISA purposes, we, the underwriters and our and the underwriter's current and future affiliates may be parties in interest with respect to many Plans and the purchase, holding or disposition of the Notes by or on behalf of, or with the assets of, such Plans could be considered to give rise to a non-exempt direct or indirect prohibited transaction under ERISA, Section 4975 of the Code or Similar Law. Thus, a Plan fiduciary considering an investment in securities should also consider whether such an investment might constitute or give rise to a prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA, Section 4975 of the Code or Similar Law. For example, the Notes may be deemed to represent a direct or indirect sale of property, extension of credit or furnishing of services between us and an investing Plan which would be prohibited if we are a party in interest with respect to the Plan unless exemptive relief were available under applicable law or an applicable exemption.

In this regard, each prospective purchaser that is, or is acting on behalf of or with the assets of, a Plan, and proposes to purchase Notes, should consider whether exemptive relief is available including under one or more the following prohibited transaction class exemptions, or PTCEs: (A) the in-house asset manager exemption (PTCE 96-23); (B) the insurance company general account exemption (PTCE 95-60); (C) the bank collective investment fund exemption (PTCE 91-38); (D) the insurance company pooled separate account exemption (PTCE 90-1); and (E) the qualified professional asset manager exemption (PTCE 84-14). In addition, ERISA Section 408(b)(17) and Section 4975(d)(20) of the Code may provide a limited exemption for the purchase and sale of Notes, provided that neither the issuer of the Notes nor any of its affiliates have or exercise any discretionary authority or control or render any investment advice with respect to the assets of the Plan involved in the transaction and *provided further* that the Plan pays no more, and receives no less, than adequate consideration in connection with the transaction (the so-called "service provider exemption"). There can be no assurances, however, that any of these or any other statutory or class exemptions will be available with respect to transactions involving the Notes or with respect to any particular Plan.

Each purchaser or holder of a Note, and each fiduciary who causes any entity to purchase or hold a Note, shall be deemed to have represented and warranted, on each day such purchaser or holder holds such Notes, that either: (i) it is neither a Plan nor a Non-ERISA Arrangement and it is not purchasing or holding Notes on behalf of or with the assets of any Plan or Non-ERISA Arrangement; or (ii) its purchase, holding and subsequent disposition of such Notes shall not constitute or result in (A) the purchase, holding or disposition of an impermissible or imprudent investment, (B) a non-exempt prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA, Section 4975 of the Code or any provision of Similar Law; or (C) a breach of fiduciary or other duty or applicable law.

Each purchaser or holder of a Note will have exclusive responsibility for ensuring that its purchase, holding and subsequent disposition of the Note does not violate ERISA, the Code or any Similar Law. Nothing herein shall be construed as a representation that an investment in the Notes would meet any or all of the relevant legal requirements with respect to investments by, or that an investment in the Notes is appropriate for, Plans or Non-ERISA Arrangements generally or any particular Plan or Non-ERISA Arrangement.

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

We have entered into an underwriting agreement dated _____, 2017 with Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P., as representative of the underwriters named therein, with respect to the Notes being offered pursuant to this prospectus supplement. Subject to certain conditions, the underwriters named below have agreed, severally and not jointly, to purchase that portion of the aggregate principal amount of Notes in this offering listed next to their respective names in the table below:

Underwriters	Amount of Securities
Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.	\$
Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc.	
Total	\$

Notes sold by the underwriters to the public initially will be offered at the public offering price set forth on the cover of this prospectus supplement. Any Notes sold by the underwriters to securities dealers may be sold at a discount from the public offering price of up to _____% of the principal amount of the Notes. If all the Notes are not sold at the public offering price, the underwriters may change such offering price and the other selling terms. The offering of the Notes by the underwriters is subject to receipt and acceptance and subject to the underwriters' right to reject any order in whole or in part.

We expect that delivery of the Notes will be made to investors on or about _____, 2017, which will be the third business day following the date of this prospectus supplement.

The following table shows the per Note and total underwriting discounts we will pay the underwriters:

Per Note	%
Total	\$

We estimate that our total expenses of the offering, excluding underwriting discounts, will be approximately \$ _____. We have also agreed to reimburse the underwriters for certain of their fees and expenses.

No Sales of Similar Securities

We have agreed, for a period from the date of the underwriting agreement through and including the closing date of the offering, not to offer, sell, contract to sell, pledge or otherwise dispose of, directly or indirectly, any debt securities that are issued or guaranteed by us and have a tenor of more than one year, without the prior written consent of the underwriters, other than the Notes.

No Public Trading Market

There is currently no public trading market for the Notes. In addition, we have not applied and do not intend to apply to list the Notes on any securities exchange or to have the Notes quoted on a quotation system. The underwriters have advised us that they intend to make a market in the Notes. However, neither underwriter is obligated to do so and may

discontinue any market-making in the Notes at any time in its sole discretion. Therefore, we cannot assure you that a liquid trading market for the Notes will develop, that you will be able to sell your Notes at a particular time, or that the price you receive when you sell will be favorable. If an active trading market for the Notes does not develop, the market price and liquidity of the Notes may be adversely affected. If the Notes are traded, they may trade at a discount from their initial offering price, depending on prevailing interest rates, the market for similar securities, the credit ratings for the Notes, our operating performance and financial condition, general economic conditions and other factors.

S-34

Table of Contents

Price Stabilization, Short Positions

In connection with this offering of the Notes, each underwriter may engage in overallotment and stabilizing transactions in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act. Overallotment involves sales in excess of the offering size, which create a short position for the underwriters. Stabilizing transactions involve bids to purchase the Notes in the open market for the purpose of pegging, fixing, or maintaining the price of the Notes. Stabilizing transactions may cause the price of the Notes to be higher than it would otherwise be in the absence of those transactions. If an underwriter engages in stabilizing transactions, it may discontinue them at any time.

Neither we nor the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the Notes. In addition, neither we nor the underwriters make any representation that either underwriter will engage in these transactions or that these transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

Other Relationships

Each of the underwriters and their respective affiliates have engaged in, and may in the future engage in, investment banking and other commercial dealings in the ordinary course of business with us or our affiliates. They have received, or may in the future receive, customary fees and commissions for these transactions.

In addition, in the ordinary course of their business activities, each of the underwriters and its affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments, including serving as counterparties to certain derivative and hedging arrangements and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of ours or our affiliates. If any underwriter or any of its affiliates has a lending relationship with us, they may hedge their credit exposure to us consistent with their customary risk management policies. Such underwriter and its affiliates could hedge such exposure by entering into transactions which consist of either the purchase of credit default swaps or the creation of short positions in our securities, including potentially the Notes offered hereby. Any such credit default swaps or short positions could adversely affect future trading prices of the Notes offered hereby. Each of the underwriters and their respective affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the Notes offered by this prospectus supplement will be passed upon for us by the law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, Los Angeles, California. Holland & Knight LLP, Washington, D.C., will pass upon certain legal matters for the underwriters.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Hanmi Financial Corporation as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2016, and management's assessment of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2016 have been incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 (Form 10-K) in reliance of the reports of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, appearing in Form 10-K incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The audit report on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2016 contains an explanatory paragraph that states the Company acquired certain leases of Irvine, California-based Banc of California on October 27, 2016. As a result, \$243.3 million of leases receivable included in the Company's consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2016 have been excluded from management's assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2016. The audit of internal control over financial reporting of the Company also excluded an evaluation of the internal control over financial reporting of the acquired leases.

Table of Contents

HANMI FINANCIAL CORPORATION

COMMON STOCK

PREFERRED STOCK

DEPOSITARY SHARES

DEBT SECURITIES

We may offer and sell from time to time, in one or more offerings, in amounts, at prices and on terms determined at the time of any such offering, (1) shares of our common stock, (2) shares of our preferred stock, which we may issue in one or more series, (3) depositary shares representing preferred stock, or (4) debt securities, which may be senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities.

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol HAFC.

We urge you to read carefully this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement, which will describe the specific terms of the securities being offered to you, before you make your investment decision.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS OR THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

This prospectus may not be used to sell securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

The date of this prospectus is March 13, 2017.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	1
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	2
<u>SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	2
<u>HANMI FINANCIAL CORPORATION</u>	3
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	3
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	3
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES</u>	4
<u>DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES</u>	4
<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</u>	4
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES</u>	7
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u>	10
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	19
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	21
<u>EXPERTS</u>	21

Table of Contents

Unless otherwise indicated or the context otherwise requires, all references in this prospectus to Hanmi Financial, the Company, we, our, us or similar terms refer to Hanmi Financial Corporation, together with its subsidiaries.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a shelf registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission or SEC). By using a shelf registration statement, we may sell, from time to time, in one or more offerings, any combination of the securities described in this prospectus.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The accompanying prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. References to the applicable prospectus supplement are to the prospectus supplement to this prospectus that describes the specific terms and conditions of the applicable security. You should read both this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading Where You Can Find More Information.

We may include agreements as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. In reviewing such agreements, please remember that they are included to provide you with information regarding their terms and are not intended to provide any other factual or disclosure information about us or the other parties to the agreements. The agreements may contain representations and warranties by each of the parties to the applicable agreement. These representations and warranties have been made solely for the benefit of the other parties to the applicable agreement and:

should not in all instances be treated as categorical statements of fact, but rather as a way of allocating the risk to one of the parties if those statements prove to be inaccurate;

may have been qualified by disclosures that were made to the other party in connection with the negotiation of the applicable agreement, which disclosures would not necessarily be reflected in the agreement;

may apply standards of materiality in a way that is different from what may be viewed as material to you or other investors; and

were made only as of the date of the applicable agreement or such other date or dates as may be specified in the agreement and are subject to more recent developments.

Accordingly, these representations and warranties may not describe the actual state of affairs as of the date they were made or at any other time. Additional information about us may be found elsewhere in the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part and our other public filings, which are available without charge through the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

We have not authorized any other person, including any dealer, salesperson or other individual, to provide you with any information or to make any representations other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information

that others may give you. We are not making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference is accurate only as of their respective dates.

Table of Contents

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file reports, proxy statements, and other information with the SEC. Such reports, proxy statements, and other information concerning us can be read and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549 or on the Internet at <http://www.sec.gov>. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the Public Reference Room. Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, and these reports, proxy statements and other information are also available for inspection at the offices of the NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc. located at 1735 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement filed with the SEC by us. The full registration statement can be obtained from the SEC as indicated above, or from us.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with the SEC. This permits us to disclose important information to you by referring to these filed documents. Any information referred to in this way is considered part of this prospectus, and any information filed with the SEC by us after the date of this prospectus will automatically be deemed to update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the following documents that have been filed with the SEC (other than information in such documents that is not deemed to be filed):

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016;

Portions of the Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A for the 2016 annual meeting of stockholders incorporated by reference in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015; and

the description of our common stock set forth in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on April 21, 2000.

We also incorporate by reference any future filings (other than information in such documents that is not deemed to be filed) made with the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), until we file a post-effective amendment which indicates the termination of the offering of the securities made by this prospectus.

We will provide without charge upon written or oral request a copy of any or all of the documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus, other than exhibits which are specifically incorporated by reference into such documents. Requests should be directed to our Investor Relations department at Hanmi Financial Corporation, 3660 Wilshire Boulevard, Penthouse Suite A, Los Angeles, California 90010. Our telephone number is (213) 382-2200.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), and Section 21E of the Exchange Act, which are subject to the safe harbor created by those sections. Forward-looking statements are based on our management's beliefs and assumptions and on information currently available to our management. In some

cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as may, will, should, could, goal, would, plan, intend, anticipate, believe, estimate, project, predict, potential, continue and similar expressions to identify forward-looking statements. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause our actual results, performance, time frames or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance, time frames or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking

Table of Contents

statements. We discuss many of these risks, uncertainties and other factors in our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and in any prospectus supplement related hereto in greater detail under the heading Risk Factors. Given these risks, uncertainties and other factors, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Also, these forward-looking statements represent our estimates and assumptions only as of the date of the document containing the applicable statement. You should read this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. We hereby qualify our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements. Except as required by law, we assume no obligation to update these forward-looking statements publicly, or to update the reasons actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements, even if new information becomes available in the future.

HANMI FINANCIAL CORPORATION

We are the holding company of Hanmi Bank (the Bank). The Bank is a community bank conducting general business banking, with its primary market encompassing the Korean-American community as well as other ethnic communities across California, Texas, Illinois, Virginia, New Jersey, and New York. The Bank's full-service offices are located in markets where many of the businesses are run by immigrants and other minority groups. The Bank's client base reflects the multi-ethnic composition of these communities. The Bank is a California state-chartered financial institution insured by the FDIC. As of December 31, 2016, the Bank maintained a network of 41 full-service branch offices and 6 loan production offices in California, Texas, Illinois, Virginia, New Jersey, New York, Colorado, Georgia and Washington State.

Our principal executive offices are located at 3660 Wilshire Boulevard, Penthouse Suite A, Los Angeles, California 90010, and our telephone number is (213) 382-2200.

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves risks. You should carefully consider the risks described under Risk Factors in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and any subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, which descriptions are incorporated by reference herein, as well as the other information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or in any prospectus supplement hereto before making a decision to invest in our securities. See Where You Can Find More Information, above for information about how to obtain a copy of these documents. Additional risks related to our securities may also be described in a prospectus supplement.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise set forth in a prospectus supplement with respect to the proceeds from the sale of the particular securities to which such prospectus supplement relates, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the offered securities for general corporate purposes, which may include funding the repayment or redemption of outstanding debt, dividend payments, share repurchases, ongoing operations, capital expenditures and possible acquisitions of businesses or assets.

Table of Contents**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

No shares of our preferred stock were outstanding during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, December 31, 2015, December 31, 2014, December 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012. Therefore, the ratios of earnings to fixed charges and preferred dividends are not separately stated from the ratios of earnings to fixed charges for the periods listed above. The table below reflects our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each of the five fiscal years in the period ended December 31, 2016.

	For the Fiscal Years Ended				
	December 31, 2016	December 31, 2015	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2012
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges(a)					
Including interest on deposits	5.37	5.94	5.53	5.09	3.12
Excluding interest on deposits	42.04	37.76	37.66	36.37	25.83

- (a) The ratio of earnings to fixed charges was computed by dividing earnings by fixed charges. For this purpose, earnings consists of pre-tax income plus fixed charges, and fixed charges consists of interest expenses, including amortization of debt issuance costs, and the portion of rent expense which we believe is representative of the interest component of rental expense.

DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

This prospectus contains a summary of our common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares and debt securities. These summaries are not meant to be a complete description of each security. The particular terms of any security to be issued pursuant hereto will be set forth in a related prospectus supplement. This prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement will contain the material terms and conditions for each security.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

The following description of our capital stock, certain provisions of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws and certain provisions of Delaware law is a summary and is qualified in its entirety by reference to our certificate of incorporation, bylaws and the Delaware General Corporation Law (the "DGCL"). Copies of our certificate of incorporation and our bylaws have been filed with the SEC and are filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

Our authorized capital stock consists of 62,500,000 shares of common stock, \$0.001 par value, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.001 par value. As of February 27, 2017, there were 32,327,185 shares of common stock outstanding and no shares of preferred stock outstanding.

Common Stock

The holders of common stock are entitled to one vote for each share held of record on all matters submitted to a vote of the stockholders. The holders of common stock are not entitled to cumulative voting rights with respect to the election of directors, and as a consequence, minority stockholders are not able to elect directors on the basis of their votes alone. Subject to preferences that may be applicable to any shares of preferred stock currently outstanding or

issued in the future, holders of common stock are entitled to receive ratably such dividends as may be declared by our board of directors out of funds legally available therefor. In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, holders of our common stock are entitled to share ratably in all assets remaining after payment of liabilities and the liquidation preference of any then outstanding preferred stock. Holders of common stock have no preemptive rights and no right to convert their common stock into any other securities. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to the common stock.

Table of Contents

Preferred Stock

Our board of directors has the authority, without further action by the stockholders, to issue up to 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series and to fix the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions thereof, including dividend rights, conversion rights, voting rights, terms of redemption, liquidation preferences, sinking fund terms and the number of shares constituting any series or the designation of such series.

The particular terms of any series of preferred stock will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to that series of preferred stock. Those terms may include:

the title and stated value;

the number of shares we are offering;

the liquidation preference per share;

the purchase price;

the dividend rate, period and payment date and method of calculation for dividends;

whether dividends will be cumulative or non-cumulative and, if cumulative, the date from which dividends will accumulate;

the procedures for any auction and remarketing, if any;

the provisions for a sinking fund, if any;

the provisions for redemption or repurchase, if applicable, and any restrictions on our ability to exercise those redemption and repurchase rights;

any listing of the preferred stock on any securities exchange or market;

whether the preferred stock will be convertible into our common stock, and, if applicable, the conversion price, or how it will be calculated, and the conversion period;

whether the preferred stock will be exchangeable into debt securities, and, if applicable, the exchange price, or how it will be calculated, and the exchange period;

voting rights, if any, of the preferred stock;

preemption rights, if any;

restrictions on transfer, sale or other assignment, if any;

whether interests in the preferred stock will be represented by depositary shares;

a discussion of any material or special United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the preferred stock;

the relative ranking and preferences of the preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights if we liquidate, dissolve or wind up our affairs;

any limitations on issuance of any class or series of preferred stock ranking senior to or on a parity with the series of preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights if we liquidate, dissolve or wind up our affairs; and

any other specific terms, preferences, rights or limitations of, or restrictions on, the preferred stock.

The DGCL provides that the holders of preferred stock will have the right to vote separately as a class on any proposal involving fundamental changes in the rights of holders of that preferred stock. This right is in addition to any voting rights that may be provided for in the applicable certificate of designation.

Table of Contents

The issuance of preferred stock could adversely affect the voting power, conversion or other rights of holders of common stock. Preferred stock could be issued quickly with terms calculated to delay or prevent a change in control of our company or make removal of management more difficult. Additionally, the issuance of preferred stock may have the effect of decreasing the market price of our common stock.

Anti-Takeover Effects of Provisions of Delaware Law and Our Charter Documents

Certificate of Incorporation

Stockholders have no cumulative voting rights.

Our certificate of incorporation also requires that any action required or permitted to be taken by our stockholders must be effected at a duly called annual or special meeting of the stockholders and may not be effected by a consent in writing and that the stockholders may amend our bylaws or adopt new bylaws only by the affirmative vote of 66.67% of the outstanding voting securities. A special meeting of the stockholders may be called by our Chairman, our Chief Executive Officer or a resolution adopted by a majority of the total number of authorized directors. These provisions may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control.

The lack of cumulative voting will make it more difficult for our existing stockholders to replace our board of directors as well as for another party to obtain control of us by replacing our board of directors. Since our board of directors has the power to retain and discharge our officers, these provisions could also make it more difficult for existing stockholders or another party to effect a change in management.

These and other provisions may have the effect of deterring hostile takeovers or delaying changes in control or management. These provisions are intended to enhance the likelihood of continued stability in the composition of our board of directors and in the policies of our board of directors and to discourage certain types of transactions that may involve an actual or threatened change in control. These provisions are designed to reduce our vulnerability to an unsolicited acquisition proposal. The provisions also are intended to discourage certain tactics that may be used in proxy rights. However, such provisions could have the effect of discouraging others from making tender offers for our shares and, as a consequence, such provisions also may inhibit fluctuations in the market price of our shares that could result from actual or rumored takeover attempts. Such provisions also may have the effect of preventing changes in our management.

Section 203 of the DGCL

We are subject to Section 203 of the DGCL, which, subject to certain exceptions, prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in a business combination with any interested stockholder for a period of three years following the time that such stockholder became an interested stockholder, unless:

prior to such time, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested holder;

upon consummation of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding for purposes of determining the number of shares outstanding those

shares owned (a) by persons who are directors and also officers and (b) by employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine confidentially whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer; or

at or subsequent to such time, the business combination is approved by the board of directors and authorized at an annual or special meeting of stockholders, and not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of at least $66\frac{2}{3}\%$ of the outstanding voting stock which is not owned by the interested stockholder.

Table of Contents

In general, Section 203 of the DGCL defines *business combination* to include the following:

any merger or consolidation involving the corporation and the interested stockholder;

any sale, transfer, pledge or other disposition of 10% or more of the assets of the corporation involving the interested stockholder;

subject to certain exceptions, any transaction that results in the issuance or transfer by the corporation of any stock of the corporation to the interested stockholder;

any transaction involving the corporation that has the effect of increasing the proportionate share of the stock or any class or series of the corporation beneficially owned by the interested stockholder; or

the receipt by the interested stockholder of the benefit of any loans, advances, guarantees, pledges or other financial benefits provided by or through the corporation.

In general, Section 203 of the DGCL defines *interested stockholder* as an entity or person beneficially owning 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation and any entity or person affiliated with or controlling or controlled by such entity or person.

Certain Transactions

Our bylaws provide that we will indemnify our directors and executive officers to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL and any other applicable law. We are also empowered under our bylaws to indemnify other officers, employees and other agents as set forth in the DGCL or any other applicable law and to enter into indemnification contracts with our directors and executive officers and to purchase insurance on behalf of any person whom we are required or permitted to indemnify.

In addition, our certificate of incorporation provides that the liability of our directors for monetary damages shall be eliminated to the fullest extent permissible under Delaware law. Pursuant to Delaware law, our directors shall not be liable for monetary damages for breach of the directors' fiduciary duty of care to us and our stockholders. However, this provision does not eliminate the duty of care, and in appropriate circumstances, equitable remedies such as injunctive or other forms of non-monetary relief that will remain available under Delaware law. In addition, each director will continue to be subject to liability for (1) breach of the director's duty of loyalty to us or our stockholders, (2) acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (3) violating Section 174 of the DGCL, or (4) any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit. The provision also does not affect a director's responsibilities under any other law, such as the federal securities laws or state or federal environmental laws.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

Computershare Trust Company, N.A. is the transfer agent and registrar for our common stock. Computershare Trust Company, N.A.'s address is 250 Royall St., Canton MA 02021.

Listing

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol HAFC .

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

The depositary shares will be issued under deposit agreements to be entered into between us and a bank or trust company, as depositary, all to be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to any or all depositary shares in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered. We will file a copy of the deposit agreement and the depositary receipt with the SEC each time we issue a series of depositary shares, and these depositary receipts and deposit agreement will be incorporated by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

Table of Contents

General

If we elect to offer fractional interests in shares of preferred stock, we will provide for the issuance by a depositary to the public of receipts for depositary shares. Each depositary share will represent fractional interests of preferred stock. We will deposit the shares of preferred stock underlying the depositary shares under a deposit agreement between us and a bank or trust company selected by us. The bank or trust company must have its principal office in the United States and a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50 million. The depositary receipts will evidence the depositary shares issued under the deposit agreement.

The deposit agreement will contain terms applicable to the holders of depositary shares in addition to the terms stated in the depositary receipts. Each owner of depositary shares will be entitled to all the rights and preferences of the preferred stock underlying the depositary shares in proportion to the applicable fractional interest in the underlying shares of preferred stock. The depositary will issue the depositary receipts to individuals purchasing the fractional interests in shares of the related preferred stock according to the terms of the offering described in a prospectus supplement.

Dividends and Other Distributions

The depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions received for the preferred stock to the entitled record holders of depositary shares in proportion to the number of depositary shares that the holder owns on the relevant record date. The depositary will distribute only an amount that can be distributed without attributing to any holder of depositary shares a fraction of one cent. The depositary will add the undistributed balance to and treat it as part of the next sum received by the depositary for distribution to holders of depositary shares.

If there is a non-cash distribution, the depositary will distribute property received by it to the entitled record holders of depositary shares, in proportion, insofar as possible, to the number of depositary shares owned by the holders, unless the depositary determines, after consultation with us, that it is not feasible to make such distribution. If this occurs, the depositary may, with our approval, sell such property and distribute the net proceeds from the sale to the holders. The deposit agreement also will contain provisions relating to how any subscription or similar rights that we may offer to holders of the preferred stock will be available to the holders of the depositary shares.

Conversion, Exchange and Redemption

If any series of preferred stock underlying the depositary shares may be converted or exchanged, each record holder of depositary receipts will have the right or obligation to convert or exchange the depositary shares represented by the depositary receipts.

Whenever we redeem shares of preferred stock held by the depositary, the depositary will redeem, at the same time, the number of depositary shares representing the preferred stock. The depositary will redeem the depositary shares from the proceeds it receives from the corresponding redemption, in whole or in part, of the applicable series of preferred stock. The depositary will mail a notice of redemption to the record holders of the depositary shares that are to be redeemed between 30 and 60 days before the date fixed for redemption. The redemption price per depositary share will be equal to the applicable fraction of the redemption price per share on the applicable series of preferred stock. If less than all the depositary shares are to be redeemed, the depositary will select which shares to be redeemed by lot, proportionate allocation or another method.

After the date fixed for redemption, the depositary shares called for redemption will no longer be outstanding. When the depositary shares are no longer outstanding, all rights of the holders will end, except the right to receive money,

securities or other property payable upon redemption.

Table of Contents

Voting

When the depositary receives notice of a meeting at which the holders of the preferred stock are entitled to vote, the depositary will mail the particulars of the meeting to the record holders of the depositary shares. Each record holder of depositary shares on the record date may instruct the depositary on how to vote the shares of preferred stock underlying the holder's depositary shares. The depositary will try, if practical, to vote the number of shares of preferred stock underlying the depositary shares according to the instructions. The depositary will abstain from voting shares of the preferred stock to the extent it does not receive specific instructions from the holders of depositary shares representing such preferred stock. We will agree to take all reasonable action requested by the depositary to enable it to vote as instructed.

Record Date

Whenever (1) any cash dividend or other cash distribution shall become payable, any distribution other than cash shall be made, or any rights, preferences or privileges shall be offered with respect to the preferred stock, or (2) the depositary shall receive notice of any meeting at which holders of preferred stock are entitled to vote or of which holders of preferred stock are entitled to notice, or of the mandatory conversion of or any election on our part to call for the redemption of any preferred stock, the depositary shall in each such instance fix a record date (which shall be the same as the record date for the preferred stock) for the determination of the holders of depositary receipts (x) who shall be entitled to receive such dividend, distribution, rights, preferences or privileges or the net proceeds of the sale thereof or (y) who shall be entitled to give instructions for the exercise of voting rights at any such meeting or to receive notice of such meeting or of such redemption or conversion, subject to the provisions of the deposit agreement.

Amendments

We and the depositary may agree to amend the deposit agreement and the depositary receipt evidencing the depositary shares. Any amendment that (a) imposes or increases certain fees, taxes or other charges payable by the holders of the depositary shares as described in the deposit agreement or (b) otherwise prejudices any substantial existing right of holders of depositary shares, will not take effect until 30 days after the depositary has mailed notice of the amendment to the record holders of depositary shares. Any holder of depositary shares that continues to hold its shares at the end of the 30-day period will be deemed to have agreed to the amendment.

Termination

We may direct the depositary to terminate the deposit agreement by mailing a notice of termination to holders of depositary shares at least 30 days prior to termination. In addition, a deposit agreement will automatically terminate if:

the depositary has redeemed all related outstanding depositary shares, or

we have liquidated, terminated or wound up our business and the depositary has distributed the preferred stock of the relevant series to the holders of the related depositary shares.

The depositary may likewise terminate the deposit agreement if at any time 60 days shall have expired after the depositary shall have delivered to us a written notice of its election to resign and a successor depositary shall not have been appointed and accepted its appointment. If any depositary receipts remain outstanding after the date of

termination, the depositary thereafter will discontinue the transfer of depositary receipts, will suspend the distribution of dividends to the holders thereof, and will not give any further notices (other than notice of such termination) or perform any further acts under the deposit agreement except as provided below and except that the depositary will continue (1) to collect dividends on the preferred stock and any other distributions with respect thereto and (2) to deliver the preferred stock together with such dividends and distributions and the net proceeds of any sales of rights, preferences, privileges or other property, without liability for interest thereon, in

Table of Contents

exchange for depositary receipts surrendered. At any time after the expiration of two years from the date of termination, the depositary may sell the preferred stock then held by it at public or private sales, at such place or places and upon such terms as it deems proper and may thereafter hold the net proceeds of any such sale, together with any money and other property then held by it, without liability for interest thereon, for the pro rata benefit of the holders of depositary receipts which have not been surrendered.

Payment of Fees and Expenses

We will pay all fees, charges and expenses of the depositary, including the initial deposit of the preferred stock and any redemption of the preferred stock. Holders of depositary shares will pay transfer and other taxes and governmental charges and any other charges as are stated in the deposit agreement for their accounts.

Resignation and Removal of Depositary

At any time, the depositary may resign by delivering notice to us, and we may remove the depositary. Resignations or removals will take effect upon the appointment of a successor depositary and its acceptance of the appointment. The successor depositary must be appointed within 60 days after delivery of the notice of resignation or removal and must be a bank or trust company having its principal office in the United States and having a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50 million.

Reports

The depositary will forward to the holders of depositary shares all reports and communications from us that are delivered to the depositary and that we are required by law, the rules of an applicable securities exchange or our amended and restated certificate of incorporation to furnish to the holders of the preferred stock. Neither we nor the depositary will be liable if the depositary is prevented or delayed by law or any circumstances beyond its control in performing its obligations under the deposit agreement. The deposit agreement limits our obligations and the depositary's obligations to performance in good faith of the duties stated in the deposit agreement. Neither we nor the depositary will be obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding connected with any depositary shares or preferred stock unless the holders of depositary shares requesting us to do so furnish us with satisfactory indemnity. In performing our obligations, we and the depositary may rely upon the written advice of our counsel or accountants, on any information that competent people provide to us and on documents that we believe are genuine.

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

We have summarized below general terms and conditions of the debt securities that we will offer and sell pursuant to this prospectus. When we offer to sell a particular series of debt securities, we will describe the specific terms and conditions of the series in a prospectus supplement to this prospectus. We will also indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement whether the general terms and conditions described in this prospectus apply to the series of debt securities. The terms and conditions of the debt securities of a series may be different in one or more respects from the terms and conditions described below. If so, those differences will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

We will issue the debt securities in one or more series under either a senior indenture between us and Wilmington Trust, National Association, as trustee or such other trustee as identified in the applicable prospectus supplement, or a subordinated indenture between us and Wilmington Trust, National Association, as trustee or such other trustee as identified in the applicable prospectus supplement. The following description of provisions of the indentures does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, the indentures, each of which has

been filed with the SEC as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. A form of each debt security, any future supplemental indenture or similar document

Table of Contents

also will be so filed. You should read the indentures and any supplemental indenture or similar document because they, and not this description, define your rights as holder of our debt securities. All capitalized terms have the meanings specified in the indentures.

For purposes of this section of this prospectus, references to we, us and our are to Hanmi Financial Corporation and not to any of its subsidiaries.

General

We may issue, from time to time, debt securities, in one or more series, that will consist of either senior debt (Senior Debt Securities) or subordinated debt (Subordinated Debt Securities). Debt securities, whether senior or subordinated, may be issued as convertible debt securities or exchangeable debt securities.

Neither indenture limits the amount of debt securities that we may issue. We may, without the consent of the holders of the debt securities of any series, issue additional debt securities ranking equally with, and otherwise similar in all respects to, the debt securities of the series (except for any differences in the issue price and, if applicable, the initial interest accrual date and interest payment date) so that those additional debt securities will be consolidated and form a single series with the debt securities of the series previously offered and sold; provided that if the additional debt securities are not fungible with the debt securities of the series previously offered or sold for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the additional debt securities will have a separate CUSIP or other identifying number.

The indentures provide that we may issue debt securities up to the principal amount that we may authorize and may be in any currency or currency unit designated by us. Except for the limitations on consolidation, merger and sale of all or substantially all of our assets contained in the indentures, the terms of the indentures do not contain any covenants or other provisions designed to afford holders of any debt securities protection with respect to our operations, financial condition or transactions involving us.

We may issue the debt securities issued under the indentures as discount securities, which means they may be sold at a discount below their stated principal amount. These debt securities, as well as other debt securities that are not issued at a discount, may, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, be treated as if they were issued with original issue discount, because of interest payment and other characteristics. Special U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to debt securities issued with original issue discount will be described in more detail in any applicable prospectus supplement.

Provisions of the Indentures

The applicable prospectus supplement for a series of debt securities that we issue will describe, among other things, the following terms of the offered debt securities:

the title of the debt securities;

the price(s), expressed as a percentage of the principal amount, at which we will sell the debt securities;

any limit on the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities;

the date(s) when principal payments are due on the debt securities;

the interest rate(s) on the debt securities, which may be fixed or variable, per annum or otherwise, and the method used to determine the rate(s), the dates on which interest will begin to accrue and be payable, and any regular record date for the interest payable on any interest payment date;

the currency or currencies of payment of principal or interest;

the place(s) where principal of, premium and interest on the debt securities will be payable;

Table of Contents

provisions governing redemption of the debt securities, including any redemption or purchase requirements pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provisions or at the option of a holder of debt securities, and the redemption price and other detailed terms and provisions of such repurchase obligations;

the denominations in which the debt securities will be issued, if other than minimum denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple in excess thereof;

whether the debt securities will be issued in the form of certificated debt securities or global debt securities;

the portion of the principal of the debt securities payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity date, if other than the entire principal amount;

any additional or modified events of default from those described in this prospectus or in the indenture and any change in the acceleration provisions described in this prospectus or in the indenture;

any additional or modified covenants from those described in this prospectus or in the indenture with respect to the debt securities; and

any depositories, interest rate calculation agents, exchange rate calculation agents or other agents with respect to the debt securities.

The applicable prospectus supplement will set forth certain U.S. federal income tax considerations for holders of any debt securities and the securities exchange or quotation system on which any debt securities are listed or quoted, if any.

Debt securities issued by us will be structurally subordinated to all indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries, except to the extent any such subsidiary guarantees or is otherwise obligated to make payment on such debt securities.

Senior Debt Securities

Payment of the principal of, and premium, if any, and interest on, Senior Debt Securities will rank on a parity with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated debt. Senior Debt Securities will be issued under the senior debt indenture.

Subordinated Debt Securities

Payment of the principal of, and premium, if any, and interest on, Subordinated Debt Securities will be subordinated and junior in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all of our unsubordinated debt. We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to any Subordinated Debt Securities the subordination terms of such securities as well as the aggregate amount of outstanding indebtedness, as of the most recent practicable date, that by its terms would be senior to the Subordinated Debt Securities. We will also set forth in such prospectus supplement limitations, if any, on issuance of additional debt ranking senior to the Subordinated Debt Securities. Subordinated Debt Securities will be issued under the subordinated debt indenture.

Conversion or Exchange Rights

Debt securities may be convertible into or exchangeable for other securities or property of us. The terms and conditions of conversion or exchange will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. The terms will include, among others, the following:

the conversion or exchange price;

the conversion or exchange period;

Table of Contents

provisions regarding the ability of us or the holder to convert or exchange the debt securities;

events requiring adjustment to the conversion or exchange price; and

provisions affecting conversion or exchange in the event of our redemption of the debt securities.

Consolidation, Merger or Sale

The indentures provide that we may not consolidate with or merge with or into, or convey, transfer or lease all or substantially all of our properties and assets to any person, and we may not permit any other person to consolidate with or merge into us or to convey, transfer or lease all or substantially all of its properties and assets to us, unless:

we are the surviving person or the successor person (if not us), is a corporation organized and validly existing under the laws of any United States domestic jurisdiction and expressly assumes, by a supplemental indenture, our obligations on the debt securities and under such indenture;

immediately after giving effect to such transaction, and treating any indebtedness that becomes an obligation of us or our subsidiaries as a result of such transaction as having been incurred by us or such subsidiary at the effective date of such transaction, no default or event of default under such indenture shall have occurred and be continuing; and

we have complied with our obligations to deliver certain documentation to the applicable trustee, including an officers' certificate and opinion of counsel each stating that such proposed transaction and any supplemental indenture comply with such indenture.

Events of Default

For any series of debt securities, in addition to any event of default described in the prospectus supplement applicable to that series, an event of default will include the following events:

default in the payment when due of any interest on any debt securities of that series, and continuance of such default for a period of 30 days (unless we deposit the entire amount of such payment with the trustee or with a paying agent prior to the expiration of such 30-day period);

default in the payment when due of principal of any debt security of that series;

default in the deposit when due of any sinking fund payment in respect of any debt security of that series;

default in the performance or breach of any other covenant or warranty in the indenture that applies to such series, which default continues (without such default or breach having been waived in accordance with the provisions of the indenture) for a period of 90 days after we have received written notice of the failure to perform in the manner specified in the indenture;

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization involving us; and

any other event of default provided in the applicable resolution of our board of directors or the officers certificate or supplemental indenture under which we issue such series of debt securities.

An event of default for a particular series of debt securities does not necessarily constitute an event of default for any other series of debt securities issued under the indentures.

If an event of default with respect to any outstanding debt securities occurs and is continuing, then the trustee or the holders of 25.0% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may, by written notice to us (and to the trustee if given by the holders), accelerate the payment of the principal (or, if the debt securities of that series are discount securities, that portion of the principal amount as may be

Table of Contents

specified in the terms of that series) of and accrued and unpaid interest, if any, on all debt securities of that series. Such acceleration is automatic (without any notice required) in the case of an event of default resulting from certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization. Following acceleration, payments on our subordinated debt securities, if any, will be subject to the subordination provisions described below under Subordinated Debt Securities. At any time after acceleration with respect to debt securities of any series, but before the trustee has obtained a court judgment or decree for payment of the amounts due, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may rescind and annul the acceleration if all events of default, other than the non-payment of accelerated principal and interest, if any, with respect to debt securities of that series which have become due solely by such declaration of acceleration, have been cured or waived as provided in the indenture. The prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities that are discount securities will contain particular provisions relating to acceleration of a portion of the principal amount of such discount securities upon the occurrence of an event of default.

The indentures provide that the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any rights or powers under such indenture at the request of any holder of outstanding debt securities unless the trustee is indemnified against any loss, liability or expense. Subject to certain rights of the trustee, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee with respect to the debt securities of that series.

No holder of any debt security may institute any proceeding, judicial or otherwise, with respect to the indenture or for the appointment of a receiver or trustee, or for any remedy under the indenture, unless:

such holder has previously given written notice to the trustee of a continuing event of default with respect to the debt securities of that series;

the holders of not less than 25.0% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series shall have made written request to the trustee to institute proceedings in respect of such event of default in its own name as trustee under the indenture;

such holder or holders have offered to the trustee security and indemnity satisfactory to it against the costs, expenses, and liabilities to be incurred in complying with such request;

the trustee for 60 days after its receipt of such notice, request, and offer of security and indemnity has failed to institute any such proceeding; and

no direction inconsistent with such written request has been given to the trustee during such 60-day period by the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the holder of any debt security will have an absolute and unconditional right to receive payment of the principal of, premium and any interest on that debt security on or after the due dates expressed in that debt security and to institute suit for the enforcement of payment.

Under the indentures we must furnish the trustee a statement as to compliance with such indenture within 120 days after the end of our fiscal year (beginning with the fiscal year ending immediately following the execution of such indenture) The indentures provide that, other than with respect to payment defaults, the trustee may withhold notice to the holders of debt securities of any series of a default or event of default if it in good faith determines that withholding notice is in the interests of the holders of those debt securities.

Registered Global Securities

We may issue the debt securities of a series in whole or in part in the form of one or more fully registered global securities that we will deposit with a depositary or with a nominee for a depositary identified in the

Table of Contents

applicable prospectus supplement and registered in the name of such depository or nominee. In such case, we will issue one or more registered global securities denominated in an amount equal to the aggregate principal amount of all of the debt securities of the series to be issued and represented by such registered global security or securities.

Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for debt securities in definitive registered form, a registered global security may not be transferred except as a whole:

by the depository for such registered global security to its nominee,

by a nominee of the depository to the depository or another nominee of the depository, or

by the depository or its nominee to a successor of the depository or a nominee of the successor.

The prospectus supplement relating to a series of debt securities will describe the specific terms of the depository arrangement with respect to any portion of such series represented by a registered global security. We anticipate that the following provisions will apply to all depository arrangements for debt securities:

ownership of beneficial interests in a registered global security will be limited to persons that have accounts with the depository for the registered global security, those persons being referred to as participants, or persons that may hold interests through participants;

upon the issuance of a registered global security, the depository for the registered global security will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the participants' accounts with the respective principal amounts of the debt securities represented by the registered global security beneficially owned by the participants;

any dealers, underwriters, or agents participating in the distribution of the debt securities will designate the accounts to be credited; and

ownership of any beneficial interest in the registered global security will be shown on, and the transfer of any ownership interest will be effected only through, records maintained by the depository for the registered global security (with respect to interests of participants) and on the records of participants (with respect to interests of persons holding through participants).

The laws of some states may require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of the securities in definitive form. These laws may limit the ability of those persons to own, transfer or pledge beneficial interests in registered global securities.

So long as the depository for a registered global security, or its nominee, is the registered owner of the registered global security, the depository or the nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner or holder of the debt securities represented by the registered global security for all purposes under the indenture. Except as set forth

below, owners of beneficial interests in a registered global security:

will not be entitled to have the debt securities represented by a registered global security registered in their names;

will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of the debt securities in the definitive form; and

will not be considered the owners or holders of the debt securities under the indenture.

Accordingly, each person owning a beneficial interest in a registered global security must rely on the procedures of the depositary for the registered global security and, if the person is not a participant, on the procedures of a participant through which the person owns its interest, to exercise any rights of a holder under the indenture.

Table of Contents

We understand that under existing industry practices, if we request any action of holders or if an owner of a beneficial interest in a registered global security desires to give or take any action that a holder is entitled to give or take under the indenture, the depository for the registered global security would authorize the participants holding the relevant beneficial interests to give or take the action, and those participants would authorize beneficial owners owning through those participants to give or take the action or would otherwise act upon the instructions of beneficial owners holding through them.

We will make payments of principal and premium, if any, and interest, if any, on debt securities represented by a registered global security registered in the name of a depository or its nominee to the depository or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered owners of the registered global security. None of us, the trustee or any other agent of us or the trustee will be responsible or liable for any aspect of the records relating to, or payments made on account of, beneficial ownership interests in the registered global security or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to the beneficial ownership interests.

We expect that the depository for any debt securities represented by a registered global security, upon receipt of any payments of principal and premium, if any, and interest, if any, in respect of the registered global security, will immediately credit participants' accounts with payments in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in the registered global security as shown on the records of the depository. We also expect that standing customer instructions and customary practices will govern payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in the registered global security held through the participants, as is now the case with the securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in street name. We also expect that any of these payments will be the responsibility of the participants.

If the depository for any debt securities represented by a registered global security is at any time unwilling or unable to continue as depository or ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act, we will appoint an eligible successor depository. If we fail to appoint an eligible successor depository within 90 days, we will issue the debt securities in definitive form in exchange for the registered global security. In addition, we may at any time and in our sole discretion decide not to have any of the debt securities of a series represented by one or more registered global securities. In such event, we will issue debt securities of that series in a definitive form in exchange for all of the registered global securities representing the debt securities. The trustee will register any debt securities issued in definitive form in exchange for a registered global security in such name or names as the depository, based upon instructions from its participants, shall instruct the trustee.

Defeasance of Debt Securities and Certain Covenants in Certain Circumstances

Legal Defeasance

We may deposit with the trustee, in trust, cash or U.S. government securities in an amount that, which through the payment of interest and principal in accordance with their terms, will provide, not later than one day before the due date of any payment of money, an amount in cash, which is sufficient to make all payments of principal and interest on, and any mandatory sinking fund payments in respect of, the debt securities of that series on the due dates for such payments in accordance with the terms of the indenture and those debt securities. If we make such a deposit, unless otherwise provided under the applicable series of debt securities, we will be discharged from any and all obligations in respect of the debt securities of such series (except for obligations relating to the transfer or exchange of debt securities and the replacement of stolen, lost or mutilated debt securities and relating to maintaining paying agencies and the treatment of funds held by paying agents and certain rights of the trustee and our obligations with respect thereto). However, this discharge may occur only if, among other things, we have delivered to the trustee a legal opinion stating that we have received from, or there has been published by, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service a ruling

or, since the date of execution of the indenture, there has been a change in the applicable U.S. federal income tax law, in either case to the effect that, and, based thereon confirming that, the holders of the debt securities of that series will not recognize income, gain or loss for

Table of Contents

U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of the deposit, defeasance and discharge and will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the same amounts and in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if the deposit, defeasance and discharge had not occurred.

Defeasance of Certain Covenants

Under the indentures (and unless otherwise provided by the terms of the applicable series of debt securities), upon making the deposit and delivering the legal opinion described in *Legal Defeasance* above, we will not need to comply with the covenants described under the heading *Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets* and certain other covenants set forth in the indentures, as well as any additional covenants that may be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, and any such noncompliance will not constitute a default or an event of default with respect to the debt securities of that series, or covenant defeasance.

Covenant Defeasance and Events of Default

If we exercise our option to effect covenant defeasance with respect to any series of debt securities and the debt securities of that series are declared due and payable because of the occurrence of any event of default, the amounts on deposit with the trustee will be sufficient to pay amounts due on the debt securities of that series at the time of their stated maturity but may not be sufficient to pay amounts due on the debt securities of that series at the time of the acceleration resulting from the event of default. We will remain liable for those payments.

Satisfaction and Discharge

We may discharge our obligations under either indenture and the debt securities of a series (except for certain surviving rights of the trustee and our obligations in connection therewith) if: (a) all outstanding debt securities of that series and all other outstanding debt securities issued under such indenture (i) have been delivered for cancellation, or (ii) (1) have become due and payable, (2) will become due and payable at their stated maturity within one year, (3) are to be called for redemption within one year under arrangements satisfactory to the trustee for the giving of notice and redemption by the trustee or (4) are deemed paid and discharged in a legal defeasance described above (and in the case of clauses (1), (2) and (3), we have irrevocably deposited with the trustee an amount sufficient to pay and discharge the principal of (and premium, if any), and interest on all outstanding debt securities and any other sums due on the stated maturity date or redemption date, as the case may be); (b) we have paid all other sums payable by us under such indenture; and (c) we have delivered an officers' certificate and opinion of counsel confirming.

Amendments to the Indentures

Each indenture provides that we and the trustee may enter into supplemental indentures without the consent of the holders of debt securities to:

to evidence the succession of another person to Hanmi as obligor under the indenture and the assumption by any such successor of the covenants and obligations of Hanmi in the indenture and in the debt securities or evidence the addition or release of any guarantor in accordance with the indenture or any supplemental indenture;

to add to the covenants of Hanmi such further covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions shall be for the protection of the holders of the debt securities and to make the occurrence, or the occurrence and continuance, of a default in any of such additional covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions an event of default permitting the enforcement of all or any of the several remedies provided in the indenture, with such period of grace, if any, and subject to such conditions as such supplemental indenture may provide;

Table of Contents

to add to or change any of the provisions of the indenture to provide that bearer securities may be registrable as to principal, to change or eliminate any restrictions on the payment of principal of or any premium or interest on bearer securities, to permit bearer securities to be issued in exchange for registered securities, to permit bearer securities to be issued in exchange for bearer securities of other authorized denominations or to permit or facilitate the issuance of securities in uncertificated form; provided that any such action shall not adversely affect the interests of the holders of debt securities of any series or any related coupons in any material respect;

to surrender any right or power conferred upon Hanmi;

to add or change any of the provisions of the indenture to such extent as shall be necessary to permit or facilitate the issuance of debt securities in uncertificated or global form;

to provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor trustee or facilitate the administration of the trust under the indenture by more than one trustee;

to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency in the indenture;

to add any additional events of default (and if such events of default are to be for less than all series of debt securities, stating that such are expressly being included solely for the benefit of such series) for the benefit of the holders of the debt securities;

to modify, eliminate or add to the provisions of the indenture, if the change or elimination (i) becomes effective only when there are no debt securities outstanding of any series created prior to the change or elimination that are entitled to the benefit of the changed or eliminated provision or (ii) shall not apply to the any debt securities outstanding at the time of such change or elimination;

to establish the form of the debt securities of a series and to provide for the issuance of any other series of debt securities under the indenture;

to comply with any requirements of the SEC in connection with the qualification of the indenture under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended;

to modify, eliminate or add to the provisions of the indenture to such extent as shall be necessary to effect the qualification of the indenture under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, or under any similar federal statute hereafter enacted, and to add to the Indenture such other provisions as may be expressly permitted by the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, excluding certain provisions thereof; or

to make any change that does not adversely affect the rights of any holder of debt securities of any series issued under the indenture.

Each indenture also provides that we and the trustee may, with the consent of the holders of not less than a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all series of Senior Debt Securities or Subordinated Securities, as the case may be, then outstanding and affected thereby (voting as one class), add any provisions to, or change in any manner, eliminate or modify in any way the provisions of, the indenture or modify in any manner the rights of the holders of the debt securities. We and the trustee may not, however, without the consent of the holder of each outstanding debt security affected thereby:

reduce the percentage in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities, the consent of whose holders is required to amend or supplement the indenture or any supplemental indenture, waive compliance with certain provisions of the indenture or certain defaults and the consequences thereof under the indenture, or any change to such defaults which require such consent;

reduce the rate of or extend the time for payment of interest (including default interest) on any debt securities or any additional amounts owed thereon;

reduce the principal or change the stated maturity of any debt securities;

Table of Contents

waive a default or event of default in the payment of the principal of, interest or any Additional Amounts, if any, on any debt securities (except a rescission of acceleration of the debt securities by the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities and a waiver of the payment default that resulted from such acceleration);

make any change to certain provisions of the indenture relating to, among other things, holders' rights to receive payment of the principal of and interest on the debt securities and to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment and waivers of past defaults;

make the principal of or interest, if any, on any debt securities or any Additional Amount with respect thereto payable in any currency other than that stated in the debt securities;

waive or change any redemption payment with respect to any debt securities; or

make any change to provisions of the indenture to remove any of the limitations in this paragraph upon us or the trustee.

Concerning the Trustee

The indentures limit the right of the trustee, should it become a creditor of us, to obtain payment of claims or secure its claims. The trustee is permitted to engage in certain other transactions. However, if the trustee acquires any conflicting interest, and there is a default under the debt securities of any series for which it is trustee, the trustee must eliminate the conflict or resign.

No Individual Liability of Directors, Officers, Employees or Stockholders

The indentures provide that none of our director, officer, employee or stockholder will have any liability for any of our obligations under the debt securities or the indentures or for any claim based on, in respect of or by reason of such obligations or their creation. Each holder of debt securities by accepting a debt security waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release will be part of the consideration for the issue of the debt securities.

Governing Law

The indentures and the debt securities will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares or debt securities in one or more of the following ways from time to time:

to or through underwriters or dealers;

directly to one or more purchasers;

through agents or dealers; or

through a combination of any of these methods of sale.

The prospectus supplements relating to an offering of offered securities will set forth the terms of such offering, including:

the name or names of any underwriters, dealers or agents;

the purchase price of the offered securities and the proceeds to us from the sale;

Table of Contents

any underwriting discounts and commissions or agency fees and other items constituting underwriters' or agents' compensation; and

any initial public offering price, any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers and any securities exchanges on which such offered securities may be listed.

Any initial public offering prices, discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

If underwriters are used in the sale, the underwriters will acquire the offered securities for their own account and may resell them from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The offered securities may be offered either to the public through underwriting syndicates represented by one or more managing underwriters or by one or more underwriters without a syndicate. Unless otherwise set forth in a prospectus supplement, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase any series of securities will be subject to certain conditions precedent, and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all of such series of securities if any are purchased.

In connection with underwritten offerings of the offered securities and in accordance with applicable law and industry practice, underwriters may over-allot or effect transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the offered securities at levels above those that might otherwise prevail in the open market, including by entering stabilizing bids, effecting syndicate covering transactions or imposing penalty bids, each of which is described below.

A stabilizing bid means the placing of any bid, or the effecting of any purchase, for the purpose of pegging, fixing or maintaining the price of a security.

A syndicate covering transaction means the placing of any bid on behalf of the underwriting syndicate or the effecting of any purchase to reduce a short position created in connection with the offering.

A penalty bid means an arrangement that permits the managing underwriter to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member in connection with the offering when offered securities originally sold by the syndicate member are purchased in syndicate covering transactions.

These transactions may be effected on the NASDAQ, in the over-the-counter market, or otherwise. Underwriters are not required to engage in any of these activities, or to continue such activities if commenced.

If a dealer is used in the sale, we will sell such offered securities to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell the offered securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by that dealer at the time for resale. The names of the dealers and the terms of the transaction will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to that transaction.

Offered securities may be sold directly by us to one or more institutional purchasers, or through agents designated by us from time to time, at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. Any agent involved in the offer or sale of the offered securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered will be named, and any commissions payable by us to such agent will be set forth, in the prospectus supplement relating to that offering. Unless otherwise indicated in such prospectus supplement, any such agent will be acting on a

best efforts basis for the period of its appointment.

Underwriters, dealers and agents may be entitled under agreements entered into with us to indemnification by us against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribution with respect to payments that the underwriters, dealers or agents may be required to make in respect thereof. Underwriters, dealers and agents may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for us and our affiliates in the ordinary course of business.

Table of Contents

Other than our common stock, which is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, each of the securities issued hereunder will be a new issue of securities, will have no prior trading market, and may or may not be listed on a national securities exchange. Any common stock sold pursuant to a prospectus supplement will be listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, subject to official notice of issuance. Any underwriters to whom we sell securities for public offering and sale may make a market in the securities, but such underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. We cannot assure you that there will be a market for the offered securities.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the securities being offered hereby is being passed upon for us by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, Los Angeles, California. Any underwriters will also be advised about the validity of the securities and other legal matters by their own counsel, which will be named in the applicable prospectus supplement.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Hanmi Financial Corporation as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2016, and management's assessment of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2016 have been incorporated by reference in this prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 (Form 10-K) in reliance of the reports of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, appearing in Form 10-K incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The audit report on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2016 contains an explanatory paragraph that states the Company acquired certain leases of Irvine, California-based Banc of California on October 27, 2016. As a result, \$243.3 million of leases receivable included in the Company's consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2016 have been excluded from management's assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2016. The audit of internal control over financial reporting of the Company also excluded an evaluation of the internal control over financial reporting of the acquired leases.

Table of Contents

\$

% Fixed-to-Floating Subordinated Notes due 2027

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

Lead Book Running Manager

SANDLER O NEILL + PARTNERS, L.P.

Passive Book Running Manager

KEEFE, BRUYETTE & WOODS

A STIFEL COMPANY

, 2017