ConnectOne Bancorp, Inc. Form SC 13G/A February 14, 2014

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

#### SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. 1)

ConnectOne Bancorp, Inc.
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, no par value (Title of Class of Securities)

20786U101

(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2013 (Date of Event which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

"Rule 13d-1(b)

ý Rule 13d-1(c)

"Rule 13d-1(d)

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

<sup>\*</sup> The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

CUSIP No. 20786U101

13G

1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)

EJF Capital LLC

- 2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A (a) x GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) (b) o
- 3 SEC USE ONLY
- 4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF 5 SOLE VOTING POWER

**SHARES** 

0

BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER

OWNED BY

243,069

EACH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

REPORTING

0

PERSON 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

WITH

243,069

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

243,069

- 10 CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) o
- 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

4.8%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

IA

CUSIP No. 20786U101 13G

1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)

Emanuel J. Friedman

- 2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) (a) x (b) o
- 3 SEC USE ONLY
- 4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

**United States** 

NUMBER OF 5 SOLE VOTING POWER

**SHARES** 

(

BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER

OWNED BY

243,069

EACH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

**REPORTING** 

0

PERSON 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

WITH

243,069

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

243,069

- 10 CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) o
- 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

4.8%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

IN

CUSIP No. 20786U101 13G

1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)

EJF Financial Services Fund, LP

- 2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) (a) x (b) o
- 3 SEC USE ONLY
- 4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF 5 SOLE VOTING POWER

**SHARES** 

0

BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER

**OWNED BY** 

243,069

EACH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

REPORTING

0

PERSON 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

WITH

243,069

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

243,069

- 10 CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) o
- 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

4.8%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

PN

CUSIP No. 20786U101 13G

1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)

EJF Financial Services GP, LLC

- 2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) (a) x (b) o
- 3 SEC USE ONLY
- 4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF 5 SOLE VOTING POWER

**SHARES** 

0

BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER

**OWNED BY** 

243,069

EACH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

**REPORTING** 

0

PERSON 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

WITH

243,069

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

243,069

- 10 CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) o
- 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

4.8%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

CO

### Item 1. (a) Name of Issuer

ConnectOne Bancorp, Inc.

Item 1. (b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices

301 Sylvan Avenue

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey 07632

Item 2. (a) Name of Person Filing

This Schedule 13G is being filed on behalf of the following persons (the "Reporting Persons")\*:

- (i) EJF Capital LLC;
- (ii) Emanuel J. Friedman;
- (iii) EJF Financial Services Fund, LP; and
- (iv) EJF Financial Services GP, LLC

Item 2. (b) Address of Principal Business Office or, if None, Residence

EJF Capital LLC 2107 Wilson Boulevard Suite 410 Arlington, VA 22201

Emanuel J. Friedman 2107 Wilson Boulevard Suite 410 Arlington, VA 22201

EJF Financial Services Fund, LP 2107 Wilson Boulevard Suite 410 Arlington, VA 22201

EJF Financial Services GP, LLC 2107 Wilson Boulevard Suite 410 Arlington, VA 22201

Item 2. (c) Citizenship

See Item 4 of the attached cover pages.

Item 2. (d) Title of Class of Securities

<sup>\*</sup>Attached as Exhibit A is a copy of an agreement among the Reporting Persons that this Schedule 13G is being filed on behalf of each of them.

# Edgar Filing: ConnectOne Bancorp, Inc. - Form SC 13G/A

Common Stock, no par value ("Common Stock")

Item 2. (e) CUSIP Number

20786U101

Item 3. If This Statement is Filed Pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b) or (c), Check Whether the Person

Filing is a:

Not Applicable.

Item 4. Ownership

(a) Amount beneficially owned:

See Item 9 of the attached cover pages.

(b) Percent of class:

See Item 11 of the attached cover pages.

(c) Number of shares as to which such person has:

(i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote:

See Item 5 of the attached cover pages.

(ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote:

See Item 6 of the attached cover pages.

(iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition:

See Item 7 of the attached cover pages.

(iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition:

See Item 8 of the attached cover pages.

EJF Financial Services Fund, LP is the record owner of the shares of Common Stock shown on item 9 of its respective cover page.

EJF Financial Services GP, LLC serves as the general partner and investment manager of EJF Financial Services Fund, LP and may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares of Common Stock of which EJF Financial Services Fund, LP is the record owner.

EJF Capital LLC is the sole member and manager of EJF Financial Services GP, LLC, and may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares of Common Stock of which such entities may share beneficial ownership. Emanuel J. Friedman is the controlling member of EJF Capital LLC and may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares of Common Stock over which EJF Capital LLC may share beneficial ownership.

# Edgar Filing: ConnectOne Bancorp, Inc. - Form SC 13G/A

Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than 5 percent of the class of securities, check the following [X].

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person

Not Applicable.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company

Not Applicable.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group

The filing persons may be deemed to be members of a group.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group

Not Applicable.

Item 10. Certification

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

### **SIGNATURE**

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: February 12, 2014

### EJF CAPITAL LLC

By: /s/ Neal J. Wilson

Name: Neal J. Wilson

Title: Chief Operating Officer

### EMANUEL J. FRIEDMAN

By: /s/ Emanuel J. Friedman

Name: Emanuel J. Friedman

## EJF FINANCIAL SERVICES FUND, LP

By: EJF FINANCIAL SERVICES GP, LLC

Its: General Partner

By: EJF CAPITAL LLC
Its: Sole Managing Member

By: /s/ Neal J. Wilson

Name: Neal J. Wilson

Title: Chief Operating Officer

# EJF FINANCIAL SERVICES GP, LLC

By: EJF CAPITAL LLC
Its: Sole Managing Member

By: /s/ Neal J. Wilson

Name: Neal J. Wilson

Title: Chief Operating Officer

#### **EXHIBIT A**

The undersigned, EJF Capital LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, Emanuel J. Friedman, EJF Financial Services Fund, LP, a Delaware limited partnership and EJF Financial Services GP, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, hereby agree and acknowledge that the information required by this Schedule 13G, to which this Agreement is attached as an exhibit, is filed on behalf of each of them. The undersigned further agree that any further amendments or supplements thereto shall also be filed on behalf of each of them.

Dated: February 12, 2014

#### EJF CAPITAL LLC

By: /s/ Neal J. Wilson

Name: Neal J. Wilson

Title: Chief Operating Officer

#### EMANUEL J. FRIEDMAN

By: /s/ Emanuel J. Friedman

Name: Emanuel J. Friedman

# EJF FINANCIAL SERVICES FUND, LP

By: EJF FINANCIAL SERVICES GP, LLC

Its: General Partner

By: EJF CAPITAL LLC
Its: Sole Managing Member

By: /s/ Neal J. Wilson

Name: Neal J. Wilson

Title: Chief Operating Officer

#### EJF FINANCIAL SERVICES GP, LLC

By: EJF CAPITAL LLC
Its: Sole Managing Member

By: /s/ Neal J. Wilson

Name: Neal J. Wilson

Title: Chief Operating Officer