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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) **September 23, 2009**

HUNTINGTON BANCSHARES INCORPORATED

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	1-34073 (Commission File Number)	31-0724920 (IRS Employer Identification No.)
Huntington Center 41 South High Street Columbus, Ohio (Address of principal executive Office)		43287 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (614) 480-8300

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

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 8.01. Other Events.

The Opinion and Consent of Venable LLP as to the validity of the shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of Huntington Bancshares Incorporated offered pursuant to the Prospectus Supplement dated September 18, 2009 are each filed herewith and are each incorporated by reference into the Registration Statement on Form S-3ASR (File No. 333-156700).

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
Exhibit 5.1	Opinion of Venable LLP, regarding validity of the securities to be issued.
Exhibit 23.1	Consent of Venable LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1).

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

HUNTINGTON BANCSHARES
INCORPORATED

Date: September 23, 2009

By: /s/ Richard A. Cheap

Name: Richard A. Cheap

Title: General Counsel and Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

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September 23, 2009

Huntington Bancshares Incorporated
41 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43287

Re: Registration Statement on Form S-3 (No. 333-156700)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have served as Maryland counsel to Huntington Bancshares Incorporated, a Maryland corporation (the "Company"), in connection with certain matters of Maryland law arising out of the registration by the Company of up to 109,523,700 shares (the "Shares") of common stock, par value \$.01 per share (the "Common Stock"), of the Company (including up to 14,285,700 Shares issuable pursuant to an over-allotment option), covered by the above-referenced Registration Statement on Form S-3, and all amendments thereto, as filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") by the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act") (the "Registration Statement"). The Shares will be issued pursuant to the Underwriting Agreement, dated as of September 18, 2009 (the "Underwriting Agreement"), by and between the Company and Goldman, Sachs & Co. Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Registration Statement.

In connection with our representation of the Company, and as a basis for the opinion hereinafter set forth, we have examined originals, or copies certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of the following documents (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Documents"):

1. The charter of the Company (the "Charter"), certified by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation of Maryland (the "SDAT");
 2. The Bylaws of the Company, certified as of the date hereof by an officer of the Company;
 3. A certificate of the SDAT as to the good standing of the Company, dated as of a recent date;
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4. Resolutions (the "Resolutions") adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company and a duly authorized committee thereof relating to the issuance of the Shares, certified as of the date hereof by an officer of the Company;
5. The Underwriting Agreement;
6. A certificate executed by an officer of the Company, dated as of the date hereof;
7. The Registration Statement and the related form of prospectus included therein and the supplement thereto, in the form in which it was transmitted to the Commission under the 1933 Act; and
8. Such other documents and matters as we have deemed necessary or appropriate to express the opinion set forth in this letter, subject to the assumptions, limitations and qualifications stated herein.

In expressing the opinion set forth below, we have assumed the following:

1. Each individual executing any of the Documents, whether on behalf of such individual or another person, is legally competent to do so.
 2. Each individual executing any of the Documents on behalf of a party (other than the Company) is duly authorized to do so.
 3. Each of the parties (other than the Company) executing any of the Documents has duly and validly executed and delivered each of the Documents to which such party is a signatory, and such party's obligations set forth therein are legal, valid and binding and are enforceable in accordance with all stated terms.
 4. All Documents submitted to us as originals are authentic. The form and content of all Documents submitted to us as unexecuted drafts do not differ in any respect relevant to this opinion from the form and content of such Documents as executed and delivered. All Documents submitted to us as certified or photostatic copies conform to the original documents. All signatures on all Documents are genuine. All public records reviewed or relied upon by us or on our behalf are true and complete. All representations, warranties, statements and information contained in the Documents are true and complete. There has been no oral or written modification of or amendment to any of the Documents, and there has been no waiver of any provision of any of the Documents, by action or omission of the parties or otherwise.
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5. Upon issuance of any of the Shares, the total number of shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding will not exceed the total number of shares of Common Stock that the Company is then authorized to issue under the Charter.

Based upon the foregoing, and subject to the assumptions, limitations and qualifications stated herein, it is our opinion that:

1. The Company is a corporation duly incorporated and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Maryland and is in good standing with the SDAT.
2. The Shares have been duly authorized and, when and if issued and delivered in accordance with the Resolutions, the Underwriting Agreement and the Registration Statement, will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

The foregoing opinion is limited to the laws of the State of Maryland and we do not express any opinion herein concerning any other law. We express no opinion as to the applicability or effect of any federal or state securities laws, including the securities laws of the State of Maryland, or as to federal or state laws regarding fraudulent transfers. To the extent that any matter as to which our opinion is expressed herein would be governed by any jurisdiction other than the State of Maryland, we do not express any opinion on such matter. The opinion expressed herein is subject to the effect of judicial decisions which may permit the introduction of parol evidence to modify the terms or the interpretation of agreements.

The opinion expressed herein is limited to the matters specifically set forth herein and no other opinion shall be inferred beyond the matters expressly stated. We assume no obligation to supplement this opinion if any applicable law changes after the date hereof or if we become aware of any fact that might change the opinion expressed herein after the date hereof.

This opinion is being furnished to you for submission to the Commission as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K relating to the Shares (the "Form 8-K"). We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Form 8-K and to the use of the name of our firm therein. In giving this consent, we do not admit that we are within the category of persons whose consent is required by Section 7 of the 1933 Act.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Venable LLP