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ROWAN COMPANIES INC Form 8-K March 09, 2009

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): March 6, 2009

ROWAN COMPANIES, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE 1-5491 75-0759420

(State or other Jurisdiction of (Commission File Number) (IRS Employer Identification No.)

Incorporation)

2800 POST OAK BOULEVARD SUITE 5450

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77056
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (713) 621-7800

(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:

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

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Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

On March 6, 2009, the Board of Directors met and determined to pay Mr. Daniel F. McNease, the Company s former Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, a bonus of \$364,250 pursuant to the Company s 2008 bonus plan.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

None.

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.

ROWAN COMPANIES, INC.

By: /s/ William H. Wells
William H. Wells
Vice President Finance and CFO
(Principal Financial Officer)

Dated: March 9, 2009

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