

MARKEL CORP
Form 8-K
October 26, 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: October 22, 2009

(Date of earliest event reported)

Markel Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Virginia
(State or other jurisdiction)

001-15811
(Commission)

54-1959284
(IRS Employer)

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of incorporation)

File Number)
4521 Highwoods Parkway

Identification No.)

Glen Allen, Virginia 23060-6148

(804) 747-0136

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

(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-2(b))
- .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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

Paul W. Springman, President and Chief Operating Officer, has taken a leave of absence for personal reasons, effective October 22, 2009. Mr. Springman's responsibilities will be assumed by other members of the Company's senior management team during his absence.

SIGNATURE

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

MARKEL CORPORATION

Date: October 26, 2009

By: /s/ RICHARD R. WHITT, III
Name: **Richard R. Whitt, III**
Title: **Chief Financial Officer**