

POPEYES LOUISIANA KITCHEN, INC.

FORM 8-K (Current report filing)

Filed 03/02/17 for the Period Ending 03/02/17

Address	400 PERIMETER CENTER TERRACE, SUITE 1000 ATLANTA, GA 30346
Telephone	4044594450
CIK	0001041379
Symbol	PLKI
SIC Code	5812 - Eating Places
Industry	Restaurants & Bars
Sector	Consumer Cyclical
Fiscal Year	12/30

**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 2, 2017

Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen, Inc.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Minnesota
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

000-32369
(Commission
File Number)

58-2016606
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

400 Perimeter Center Terrace, Suite 1000,
Atlanta, Georgia
(Address of principal executive offices)

30346
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (404) 459-4450

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-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 Arrangement of Certain Officers.

On March 2, 2017, Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen, Inc. (“Popeyes”) announced that Cheryl Bachelder will step down from her role as Chief Executive Officer of Popeyes effective upon completion of the previously announced acquisition of Popeyes by Restaurant Brands International Inc.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

99.1 Press release, dated March 2, 2017.

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 thereunto duly authorized.

Date: March 2, 2017

POPEYES LOUISIANA KITCHEN, INC.

By: /s/ Harold M. Cohen

Harold M. Cohen
General Counsel, Chief Administrative Officer and
Corporate Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

**Exhibit
Number**

Description

99.1

Press Release, dated March 2, 2017.



Cheryl Bachelder to Step Down as CEO of Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen, Inc. Upon Closing of Transaction with Restaurant Brands International Inc.

ATLANTA – March 2, 2017 – Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen, Inc. (NASDAQ: PLKI) today announced that Cheryl Bachelder will be stepping down as CEO at the closing of the Company’s previously announced transaction with Restaurant Brands International Inc. (“RBI”) (TSX/NYSE: QSR, TSX: QSP). A new Popeyes leader will be named by RBI at that time.

Cheryl joined Popeyes in 2006 as a member of the Board of Directors. In November 2007, she was named CEO, and, in concert with the leadership team, has led a remarkable transformation of the Company. The brand today is a strong, thriving Louisiana-inspired icon that has become a global presence with nearly 2,700 restaurants in 26 countries, with a deep bench of talent across the Company. Importantly, the franchise community has grown and prospered, with top line restaurant sales up 45% and bottom line restaurant operating profit more than doubled.

“The Board of Directors and I are deeply grateful to Cheryl for her leadership of this enterprise,” said John Cranor, Chairman of the Popeyes Board of Directors. “Cheryl’s collaborative and engaging approach to the business has driven a decade of success for the Popeyes brand and enabled the Company to achieve outstanding results, putting Popeyes at the top of the quick-service restaurant industry. She has been a great mentor to many, and leaves Popeyes strong in this 45th anniversary year.”

“Cheryl created a collaborative culture among franchisees and the Restaurant Support Team. It’s been a true partnership that turned out to be the secret to success for Popeyes,” said Howard Mangen, President of the Popeyes International Franchisee Association. “Her leadership approach was a welcome one and led to an exciting and profitable 10 years for the Popeyes Brand.”

Corporate Profile

Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen, Inc. is the franchisor and operator of Popeyes® restaurants, the world’s second-largest Quick-Service Restaurant (“QSR”) chicken concept based on number of units. Popeyes has nearly 2,700 operating restaurants in the United States, three territories, and 25 foreign countries. The Company’s primary objective is to deliver sales and profits by offering excellent investment opportunities in its Popeyes brand and providing exceptional franchisee support systems and services to its owners. Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen, Inc. can be found at www.popeyes.com.

NOTICE TO INVESTORS ABOUT THE OFFER:

This announcement is neither an offer to purchase nor a solicitation of an offer to sell any securities. The solicitation and the offer to buy shares of Popeyes’ common stock is being made pursuant to an Offer to Purchase and related tender offer materials that Orange, Inc. has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) on February 27, 2017. Orange, Inc. has filed a Tender Offer Statement on Schedule TO with the SEC on February 27, 2017 and Popeyes has filed a Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9 with the SEC on February 27, 2017 related to the tender offer. The Tender Offer Statement (including an Offer to Purchase, a related Letter of Transmittal and other tender offer documents) and the Solicitation/Recommendation Statement contain important information that should be read carefully before any decision is made with respect to the tender offer. Those materials have been sent to Popeyes’ shareholders and may also be obtained at no charge by contacting Mackenzie Partners, Inc. at (212) 929-5500 (collect) or (800) 322-2885 (toll free). In addition, all of those materials (and all other offer documents filed with the SEC) are available at no charge on the SEC’s website at www.sec.gov.



###

Media inquiries:

Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen, Inc.
Renee Kopkowski, 404-459-4630
Vice President, Brand Communications
renee.kopkowski@popeyes.com