

COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS INC
Form 8-K
April 25, 2011

**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**

April 25, 2011

**Date of Report (date of earliest event reported)
COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in charter)**

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-15925
(Commission File Number)

13-3893191
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

4000 Meridian Boulevard
Franklin, Tennessee 37067
(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (615) 465-7000

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))
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Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.

After furnishing a Form 8-K on Friday, April 22, 2011, Community Health Systems, Inc. (the Company) obtained a copy of a joint motion filed Friday afternoon by the relator and the U.S. Department of Justice in the case styled *United States ex rel. and Reuille vs. Community Health Systems Professional Services Corporation and Lutheran Musculoskeletal Center, LLC d/b/a Lutheran Hospital*, filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana, Fort Wayne Division. The government had previously declined to intervene in this case. The motion contains additional information about how the government intends to proceed with an investigation regarding allegations of improper billing for inpatient care at other hospitals associated with Community Health Systems, Inc. . . . asserted in other *qui tam* complaints in other jurisdictions. The motion states that the Department of Justice has now consolidated its investigations of the Company and other related entities and that the Civil Division of the Department of Justice, multiple United States Attorneys' offices, and the Office of Inspector General for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) are now closely coordinating their investigation of these overlapping allegations. The Attorney General of Texas has initiated an investigation; the United States intends to work cooperatively with Texas and any other States investigating these allegations. The motion also states that the Office of Audit Services for the Office of Investigations for HHS has been engaged to conduct a national audit of certain of the Company's Medicare claims. The government confirmed that it considers the allegations made in the complaint styled *Tenet Healthcare Corporation vs. Community Health Systems, Inc., et al.* filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division on April 11, 2011 to be related to the allegations in the *qui tam* and to what the government is now describing as a consolidated investigation.

Because *qui tam* suits are filed under seal, no one but the relator and the government knows that the suit has been filed or what allegations are being made by the relator on behalf of the government. Initially, the government has sixty (60) days to make a determination about whether to intervene in a case and to act as the plaintiff or to decline to intervene and allow the relator to act as the plaintiff in the suit, but extensions of time are frequently granted to allow the government additional time to investigate the allegations. Even if, in the course of an investigation, the court partially unseals a complaint to allow the government and a defendant to work to a resolution of the complaint's allegations, the defendant is prohibited from revealing to anyone even that the partial unsealing has occurred. As the investigation proceeds, we may learn of additional *qui tam* suits filed against the Company or its affiliated hospitals or related entities, or that contact letters, document requests, or medical record requests we have received in the past from various governmental agencies are generated from *qui tam* cases filed under seal.

The motion filed Friday concludes by requesting a stay of the litigation in the *Reuille* case for 180 days. Our management company subsidiary, Community Health Systems Professional Services Corporation, the defendant in the *Reuille* case, consented to the request for the stay. As always, we will cooperate with the government in any investigation.

The information furnished pursuant to this Item 7.01 shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act) or otherwise subject to the liabilities under that Section and shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing of the Company under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Exchange Act.

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.

Date: April 25, 2011

COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.
(Registrant)

By: /s/ W. Larry Cash
W. Larry Cash
Executive Vice President,
Chief Financial Officer and Director
(principal financial officer)