

**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): December 7, 2012

COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-15925
(Commission
File Number)

13-3893191
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

**4000 Meridian Boulevard
Franklin, Tennessee 37067**
(Address of Principal Executive Offices, including Zip Code)

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

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 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On December 7, 2012, Community Health Systems, Inc. (the “Company”) issued a press release announcing that its Board of Directors has declared a special cash dividend of \$0.25 per share, payable on December 28, 2012, to holders of record of the Company’s issued and outstanding common stock at the close of business on December 17, 2012. The press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated by reference into this Item 7.01.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description of Exhibit</u>
99.1	Community Health Systems, Inc. press release dated December 7, 2012.

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.

COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.
(Registrant)

Date: December 7, 2012

By: /s/ Wayne T. Smith

Wayne T. Smith
Chairman of the Board,
President and Chief Executive Officer
(principal executive officer)

By: /s/ W. Larry Cash

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

EXHIBIT INDEX

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99.1	Community Health Systems, Inc. press release dated December 7, 2012.



COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC. DECLARES SPECIAL CASH DIVIDEND OF \$0.25 PER SHARE

FRANKLIN, Tenn. (December 7, 2012) – Community Health Systems, Inc. (the “Company”) (NYSE:CYH) today announced that its Board of Directors has declared a special cash dividend of \$0.25 per share payable on December 28, 2012, to holders of record of the Company’s common stock at the close of business on December 17, 2012. The aggregate amount of payment to be made in connection with the special cash dividend will be approximately \$23.0 million.

Commenting on the announcement, Wayne T. Smith, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Community Health Systems, Inc. said, “Today’s announcement represents our first dividend since becoming a public company in 2000. This special cash dividend of \$0.25 per share provides us with an opportunity to return capital to our shareholders with payment prior to the end of the year.”

About Community Health Systems, Inc.

Located in the Nashville, Tennessee, suburb of Franklin, Community Health Systems, Inc. is one of the largest publicly-traded hospital companies in the United States and a leading operator of general acute-care hospitals in non-urban and mid-size markets throughout the country. Through its subsidiaries, the Company currently owns, leases or operates 135 hospitals in 29 states with an aggregate of approximately 20,000 licensed beds. Its hospitals offer a broad range of inpatient and surgical services, outpatient treatment and skilled nursing care. In addition, through its subsidiary, Quorum Health Resources, LLC, the Company provides management and consulting services to non-affiliated general acute-care hospitals located throughout the United States. Shares in Community Health Systems, Inc. are traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol “CYH.”

Forward-Looking Statements

Any statements made in this press release that are not statements of historical fact are forward-looking statements that involve risk and uncertainties. Actual future events or results may differ materially from these statements. Readers are referred to the documents filed by Community Health Systems, Inc. with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K. These filings identify important risk factors and other uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements. The Company undertakes no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements, or to make any other forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Investor Contact: W. Larry Cash
Executive Vice President
and Chief Financial Officer
(615) 465-7000

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