

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM 8-K

Current report filing

Filing Date: **2009-01-26** | Period of Report: **2009-01-22**
SEC Accession No. **0001104659-09-004113**

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FILER

River Rock Entertainment Authority

CIK: **1288924** | IRS No.: **680490898** | State of Incorporation: **XX** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**
Type: **8-K** | Act: **34** | File No.: **333-115186** | Film No.: **09545921**
SIC: **7900** Amusement & recreation services

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**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): **January 22, 2009**

River Rock Entertainment Authority

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Not Applicable

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

333-115186

(Commission File Number)

68-0490898

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

3250 Highway 128 East

Geyserville, California

(Address of principal executive offices)

95441

(Zip Code)

(707) 857-2777

(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:

- 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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Section 1 – Registrant's Business and Operations

Item 5.02(b). Departure of Directors or Principal Officers

On January 22, 2009, Mr. Shawn S. Smyth left the positions of Chief Executive Officer of the River Rock Entertainment Authority (the "Authority") and General Manager of the River Rock Casino (the "Casino") to pursue other interests. Mr. Smyth's departure will have no impact on the financial reporting of the Authority. Effective immediately, Mr. John Cirrincione, the Chief Operating Officer of the Authority, will act as the General Manager of the Casino. The Authority will immediately begin a search for a new Chief Executive Officer and a new General Manager.

Mr. Cirrincione has been the Chief Operating Officer of the Authority since October 2008 and will continue to act in that capacity. Prior to joining the Authority, Mr. Cirrincione was the General Manager of Downstream Casino Resort, a high-end casino facility with 2,000 slots, 45 games, 5 restaurants, 226 hotel rooms and a 36 hole golf course in Quapaw, OK. Prior to that Mr. Cirrincione was General Manager for Gila River Casino in Chandler, AZ which has 2,150 slots and 80 table games. He also previously held various operational positions at Thunder Valley Casino in California, Sand Regency Casino Hotel, Atlantis Casino Resort, Silver Club Hotel Casino, John Ascuaga's Nugget in Nevada and Mystic Lake Casino Hotel in Minnesota.

The Authority has furnished the press release announcing the departure of Mr. Smyth as Exhibit 99.1 to this Form 8-K. The information in this Current Report and Exhibit 99.1 shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liability of that section, or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

Section 9 – Financial Statements and Exhibits

Item 9.01(d). Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

<u>EXHIBIT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
99.1	Press Release of River Rock Entertainment Authority dated January 26, 2009.

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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: January 26, 2009

River Rock Entertainment Authority

By: /s/ Joseph R. Callahan

Joseph R. Callahan
Chief Financial Officer

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**RIVER ROCK ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY
ANNOUNCES MANAGEMENT CHANGE**

Geyserville, CA. January 26, 2009 - The River Rock Entertainment Authority (the "Authority"), the operator of the River Rock Casino in Sonoma County, California, today announced that John Cirrincione has been appointed acting General Manager of the River Rock Casino, effective immediately. Mr. Cirrincione will be replacing Shawn Smyth, who has left that position and as Chief Executive Officer of the Authority to pursue other interests.

Harvey Hopkins, Chairman of the Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians, and Betty Arterberry, Chairperson of the Board of the Authority, commented, "We are pleased to announce John's appointment as acting General Manager. We look forward to utilizing John's extensive gaming experience to help us grow our business and develop a world class facility."

John Cirrincione, a 20-year industry veteran, joined the Company and was named Chief Operational Officer in October of 2008. Prior to joining the Authority, he was the General Manager of Downstream Casino Resort, a high-end casino facility with 2,000 slots, 45 games, 5 restaurants, 226 hotel rooms and a 36 hole golf course in Quapaw, OK. Prior to that Mr. Cirrincione was General Manager for Gila River Casino in Chandler, AZ which has 2,150 slots and 80 table games. He also previously held various operational positions at Thunder Valley Casino in California, Sand Regency Casino Hotel, Atlantis Casino Resort, Silver Club Hotel Casino, John Ascuaga's Nugget in Nevada and Mystic Lake Casino Hotel in Minnesota.

Ms. Arterberry continued, "Shawn has been instrumental in the development and expansion of the River Rock Casino. We appreciate his many contributions and wish him well in his future endeavors."

River Rock Entertainment Authority

We are a Tribal governmental instrumentality of the Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians (the "Tribe"), a federally recognized self-governing Indian tribe. The Tribe has 947 enrolled members and approximately 75-acre reservation in Sonoma County, California. We own and operate the River Rock Casino, a 62,000 square foot facility which is on the reservation and overlooks the scenic Alexander Valley, 75 miles north of San Francisco. River Rock Casino features 35,500 square feet of gaming space containing 1,570 slot and video poker machines, 22 table games, as well as a full-service restaurant.

Forward-Looking Statements

This release contains certain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Whenever you read a statement that is not simply a statement of historical fact (such as when we describe what we "believe," "expect" or "anticipate" will occur and other similar statements), you must remember that our expectations may not be correct, even though we believe they are reasonable. We do not guarantee that the transactions and events described in this press release will happen as described (or that they will happen at all). You should read this press release completely and with the understanding that actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. We will not update these forward-looking statements, even though our situation will change in the future.

Contact:
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