

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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

On February 9, 2018, Papa John's International, Inc. (the "Company") appointed Steven R. Coke, 39, the Company's Vice President of Investor Relations and Strategy, to the positions of principal financial and accounting officer of the Company on an interim basis, effective March 2, 2018, the previously announced date of departure of Lance Tucker, the Company's Chief Financial Officer and Chief Administrative Officer. The Company has commenced a search for a permanent chief financial officer.

Steven R. Coke has served as Vice President, Strategic Planning since January 2015, after serving as Senior Director, Strategy since April 2012 and Senior Director, Restaurant Finance since June 2011. He has served in various director and manager level positions with increasing responsibility in Finance since joining the company in May 1998. Mr. Coke is a licensed Certified Public Accountant.

Mr. Coke has no direct or indirect material interest in any transaction required to be disclosed pursuant to Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K, has no arrangement or understanding between him and any other person required to be disclosed pursuant to Item 401(b) of Regulation S-K and has no family relationships required to be disclosed pursuant to Item 401(d) of Regulation S-K. Mr. Coke participates in the compensation programs as outlined in the Company's definitive proxy statement for its 2017 annual meeting of stockholders filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 23, 2017, which information is incorporated by reference herein.

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.

**PAPA JOHN'S
INTERNATIONAL,
INC.**

(Registrant)

Date: February 9, 2018 /s/ Steve M. Ritchie
Steve M. Ritchie
President and Chief
Executive Officer