

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 19, 2018 (January 16, 2018)

EL POLLO LOCO HOLDINGS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Delaware | 001-36556 | 20-3563182 |
| (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) | (Commission File Number) | (IRS Employer Identification No.) |

| | |
|--|------------|
| 3535 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100, Costa Mesa, California | 92626 |
| (Address of principal executive offices) | (Zip Code) |

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (714) 599-5000

N/A

(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))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§ 230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§ 240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

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.

Effective January 19, 2018, John Dawson, the Chief Development Officer of the registrant (“the Company”), is no longer with the Company due to a restructuring of the Development department, and not because of any disagreement with the Company on any matter relating to the Company’s operations, policies, or practices.

Brian Carmichall has rejoined the Company as Vice President, Development, effective January 18, 2018. Mr. Carmichall previously served in this role until January 2013.

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.

El Pollo Loco Holdings, Inc.
(Registrant)

Date: January 19, 2018

/s/ Laurance Roberts
Laurance Roberts
Chief Financial Officer
