

CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL INC /DE
Form 8-K
June 02, 2014

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): May 27, 2014

CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction

of incorporation)

001-13393
(Commission

File Number)

52-1209792
(I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

1 Choice Hotels Circle, Suite 400, Rockville, Maryland 20850

(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(301) 592-5000

(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))

Item 4.01 Change in Registrant's Certifying Accountant.

(a) Dismissal of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

On May 27, 2014, the Audit Committee (the Committee) of the Board of Directors of Choice Hotels International, Inc. (the Company) dismissed PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PWC) as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, effective immediately.

The audit reports of PWC on the consolidated financial statements of the Company as of and for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012 did not contain any adverse opinion or disclaimer of opinion, nor were they qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope, or accounting principles. During the fiscal years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, and through May 27, 2014, there were (i) no disagreements as that term is defined in Item 304(a)(1)(iv) of Regulation S-K and the related instructions, between the Company and PWC on any matter of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure or auditing scope or procedure, which disagreements, if not resolved to the satisfaction of PWC, would have caused PWC to make reference to the subject matter of the disagreements in its reports on the financial statements for such years, and (ii) no reportable events as that term is defined in Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K.

The Company provided PWC with a copy of this Current Report on Form 8-K and requested that PWC furnish the Company with a letter addressed to the US Securities and Exchange Commission stating whether it agrees with the statements contained herein. A copy of PWC's letter, dated June 2, 2014, is filed as Exhibit 16.1 to this Form 8-K.

(b) Engagement of New Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

On May 30, 2014, following the conclusion of a competitive process managed by the Committee, the Company engaged Ernst & Young LLP (EY) as its independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014. During the fiscal years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012 and through May 30, 2014, neither the Company, nor anyone on its behalf, has consulted EY with respect to (i) the application of accounting principles to a specified transaction, either completed or proposed, or the type of audit opinion that might be rendered on the Company's consolidated financial statements, and neither a written report was provided to the Company nor oral advice was provided to the Company that EY concluded was an important factor considered by the Company in reaching a decision as to the accounting, auditing or financial reporting issue; or (ii) any matter that was either the subject of a disagreement (as defined in Item 304(a)(1)(iv) of Regulation S-K and the related instructions) or a reportable event (as described in Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K).

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Description
16.1	Letter from PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP dated June 2, 2014.

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: June 2, 2014

Choice Hotels International, Inc.

By: /s/ Simone Wu

Name: Simone Wu

Title: Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Corporate
Secretary & Chief Compliance Officer