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 8, 2016



(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

<u>Delaware</u> (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 001-02217

(Commission File Number)

58-0628465 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

One Coca-Cola Plaza <u>Atlanta, Georgia</u> (Address of principal executive offices)

<u>30313</u> (Zip Code)

(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)

D Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

D Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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

(b) On December 8, 2016, Howard G. Buffett provided notice to the Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Coca-Cola Company (the "Company") of his intention not to stand for re-election at the Company's 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareowners. Mr. Buffett will remain on the Board of Directors and maintain his committee membership until the 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareowners.

A copy of the press release issued by the Company announcing Mr. Buffett's retirement is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release of The Coca-Cola Company, dated December 8, 2016, regarding Howard G. Buffett.

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.

THE COCA-COLA COMPANY (REGISTRANT)

Date: December 8, 2016

By: /s/ Bernhard Goepelt

Bernhard Goepelt Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Chief Legal Counsel



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HOWARD G. BUFFETT TO RETIRE FROM THE COCA-COLA COMPANY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ATLANTA, **Dec. 8**, **2016** – The Board of Directors of The Coca-Cola Company today announced that Howard G. Buffett, 61, will not stand for re-election to the Board at the Company's Annual Meeting of Shareowners in April 2017. Buffett has chosen to retire from the Board to focus more time on his work as Chairman and CEO of the Howard G. Buffett Foundation, which focuses on advancing sustainable agricultural practices and conflict mitigation throughout the world.

"I've enjoyed my more than 17 years of combined service to the boards of Coca-Cola Enterprises and The Coca-Cola Company and have the utmost respect and admiration for the work the Company is doing to sustainably grow its business around the world," Buffett said. "Under the long-time leadership of Chairman and CEO Muhtar Kent, joined recently by President and COO James Quincey, the Company has exciting plans for the future and is poised to deliver even greater value to its many stakeholders in the years to come."

Buffett joined The Coca-Cola Company's Board of Directors in December 2010 and has served as a member of the Public Issues and Diversity Review Committee since 2011. From 1993-2004 he served as a director on the Board of Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc., which at the time was the largest bottler of Coca-Cola beverages in North America and Western Europe.

In addition to his role with the Howard G. Buffett Foundation, Buffett serves as President of Buffett Farms, a commercial farming operation in Nebraska, and, since 1993, has served as a director of Berkshire Hathaway Inc. From 1995 to January 2016, Buffett also served as a director of Lindsay Corporation.

"On behalf of everyone at Coca-Cola, I extend our heartfelt gratitude to Howard for his years of exemplary service to our Board and our system," said Muhtar Kent, Chairman and CEO, The Coca-Cola Company. "Howard has provided valuable guidance as we have worked to imbed sustainability as a core value in our system while continuing to grow our business globally. We have all benefitted greatly from his wisdom and wise counsel."



About The Coca-Cola Company

The Coca-Cola Company (NYSE: KO) is the world's largest beverage company, refreshing consumers with more than 500 sparkling and still brands and more than 3,800 beverage choices. Led by Coca-Cola, one of the world's most valuable and recognizable brands, our company's portfolio features 20 billion-dollar brands, 18 of which are available in reduced-, low- or no-calorie options. Our billion-dollar brands include Diet Coke, Coca-Cola Zero, Fanta, Sprite, Dasani, vitaminwater, Powerade, Minute Maid, Simply, Del Valle, Georgia and Gold Peak. Through the world's largest beverage distribution system, we are the No. 1 provider of both sparkling and still beverages. More than 1.9 billion servings of our beverages are enjoyed by consumers in more than 200 countries each day. With an enduring commitment to building sustainable communities, our company is focused on initiatives that reduce our environmental footprint, create a safe, inclusive work environment for our associates, and enhance the economic development of the communities where we operate. Together with our bottling partners, we rank among the world's top 10 private employers with more than 700,000 system associates. For more information, visit Coca-Cola Journey at www.coca-colacompany.com, follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/CocaColaCo, visit our blog, Coca-Cola Unbottled, at www.coca-colablog.com or find us on LinkedIn at www.linkedin.com/company/the-coca-cola-company.

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