
**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 7, 2019

RigNet, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-35003
(Commission
File Number)

76-0677208
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

15115 Park Row Blvd, Suite 300
Houston, Texas
(Address of principal executive offices)

77084-4947
(Zip Code)

(281) 674-0100
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, 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 (17 CFR 230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.12b-2)

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth, 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.

RigNet, Inc. (the “Company”) announced on January 7, 2019, that its Board of Directors (the “Board”) has appointed Jamie Barnett to serve as Senior Vice President of Government Services of the Company effective immediately.

Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Barnett was most recently the chairman of the telecommunications group and partner in the cybersecurity practice of Venable LLP. Prior to that, Mr. Barnett was the Senior Vice President for National Security Policy at the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies from May 2012 until February 2013. From July 2009 until April 2012, Mr. Barnett served as Chief of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau of the Federal Communications Commission (the “FCC”). Prior to joining the FCC, Mr. Barnett served as a research fellow at the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies from June 2006 until June 2009. From 1976 until May 2008, Mr. Barnett served as a surface warfare officer in the United States Navy, most recently as Deputy Commander of the Naval Expeditionary Combat Command. Mr. Barnett retired from the United States Navy as a Rear Admiral. Mr. Barnett holds a Bachelor of Arts in political science and a juris doctorate from the University of Mississippi.

Upon the commencement of his employment, Mr. Barnett will receive an annual base salary of \$275,000, a one-time sign-on bonus of \$25,000 in the form of Company common shares and will be eligible to participate in the Company’s Short-Term Incentive Plan beginning with the 2019 fiscal year. His target payout will be 40% of his annual base salary. Mr. Barnett will also be recommended to the Board at the March 2019 meeting for participation in the Company’s Long-Term Incentive Plan at 40% of his annual base salary.

There are no family relationships between Mr. Barnett and any director or executive officer of the Company and there are no transactions between Mr. Barnett and the Company that would be reportable under Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K.

The full text of the press release announcing Mr. Barnett’s appointment is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits:

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press release of RigNet, Inc. dated January 7, 2019

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.

RIGNET, INC.

Date: January 7, 2019

By: /s/ Brad Eastman

Name: Brad Eastman

Title: Senior Vice President & General Counsel



PRESS RELEASE

RigNet Names Retired Admiral Jamie Barnett as Senior Vice President of Government Services

HOUSTON – January 7, 2019 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) – RigNet, Inc. (NASDAQ: RNET), the leading provider of ultra-secure, intelligent broadband and networking solutions for distributed oil and gas operations, announced today the appointment of retired Adm. James Arden “Jamie” Barnett, Jr. as Senior Vice President of Government Services.

Barnett will lead the company’s efforts to build a meaningful business in the government sector by leveraging RigNet’s bundle of technology services: cyber security services, communications services, and artificial intelligence services based on real-time machine learning. He will report directly to RigNet CEO and President, Steven Pickett.

“I’m very excited to have Jamie join our executive team,” said Pickett. “We have a special role to play in this important market and Jamie is the ideal person to lead these efforts. His vast experience and leadership will spearhead the development of our government services business, enabling RigNet to provide unique solutions that will deliver more secure and effective communications in support of our nation’s critical infrastructure.”

Before joining RigNet, Admiral Barnett was a partner with Venable LLP, a regulatory law practice based in Washington D.C., where he chaired the telecommunications group. In 2015, he was named a Top Lawyer in Washington for Cybersecurity by *Washingtonian Magazine*. Prior to that, Barnett was the Senior Vice President for National Security Policy at the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies where he was responsible for the leadership in research studies and business development that focused on policy issues related to national security, cybersecurity, and homeland security. Barnett retired from the United States Navy as a Rear Adm. after serving 32 years as a surface warfare officer; his last duty assignment was Deputy Commander of the Navy Expeditionary Combat Command. Upon retiring from the Navy, Barnett was named Chief of the Federal Communications Commission’s Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. He was responsible for FCC activities related to public safety, cybersecurity, homeland security, and emergency management. He also led the effort to develop a nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband network for first responders: FirstNet.

“I found out about RigNet’s amazing set of capabilities while at Venable,” said Barnett. “I quickly realized how the brilliant combination of highly reliable remote broadband, intelligent networks, cybersecurity solutions, and tailored communications would be very attractive to government markets. I’m excited to translate RigNet’s success in the energy sector into customized solutions to meet the ever-increasing demands of government agencies. RigNet is simply very well positioned to develop a government services revenue stream with its unique services portfolio.”

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Barnett attended the University of Mississippi where he earned a Juris Doctor degree and Bachelor of Arts in political science and was inducted into the university's Student Hall of Fame.

RigNet (NASDAQ: RNET) is a global technology company providing customized communications services, applications, real-time machine learning, and cybersecurity solutions to enhance customer decision-making and business performance. RigNet delivers a digital transformation bundle that accelerates technology adoption and empowers customers to be always connected, always secure, and always learning. RigNet is headquartered in Houston, Texas with operations around the world.

For more information on RigNet, please visit www.rig.net. RigNet is a registered trademark of RigNet, Inc.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release includes "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The opinions, forecasts, projections, future opportunities, future financial performance and any other statements regarding RigNet's future expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, financial conditions, assumptions or future events or performance that are not statements of historical fact, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. RigNet can give no assurance that such expectations will prove to have been correct. These statements are subject to, among other things, the risk factors that are discussed in RigNet's most recent 10-K as well as RigNet's other filings with the SEC available at the SEC's Internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>). Actual results may differ materially from those expected, estimated or projected. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the day they are made, and we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any of them in light of new information, future events or otherwise.

Media / Investor Relations Contact

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