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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):

October 21, 2010

Symetra Financial Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

001-33808

20-0978027

(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

(Commission  
File Number)

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

777 108th Avenue NE, Suite 1200, Bellevue,  
Washington

98004

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

(425) 256-8000

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

Patrick B. McCormick, senior vice president of Symetra's National Accounts and a named executive officer of Symetra will be leaving the company. Mr. McCormick's employment will terminate at the end of November 2010. Symetra expects to enter into a separation agreement with Mr. McCormick. On an interim basis, Richard LaVoice, executive vice president of Life and Retirement Sales, will assume the responsibilities associated with Mr. McCormick's position.

Symetra issued a press release on October 22, 2010 announcing that Mr. McCormick will be leaving the company, a copy of which is filed as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release of Symetra Financial Corporation, dated October 22, 2010.

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**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.

Symetra Financial Corporation

*October 22, 2010*

*By: George C. Pagos*

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*Name: George C. Pagos*

*Title: Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary*

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Exhibit Index

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Press Release of Symetra Financial Corporation, dated October 22, 2010.

**News Release**

Contact: Diana McSweeney  
Symetra Financial  
(425) 256-6167  
diana.mcsweeney@symetra.com

**Symetra Announces Departure of Patrick McCormick**

BELLEVUE, Wash.—(Oct. 22, 2010)—Symetra Life Insurance Company today announced that Patrick B. McCormick, senior vice president of National Accounts, has decided to leave the company. He will serve in a transitional role until Nov. 30, 2010.

McCormick began his Symetra career in 1985 as a life insurance specialist. He worked his way through the management ranks of the Individual Life department and has spent the past 11 years leading Symetra's sales and distribution team.

"Pat has built a rich legacy of achievement at Symetra, but he will be remembered most as a great team builder, coach and trusted business partner," said Tom Marra, Symetra president and chief executive officer. "We will miss Pat's leadership and good nature, and we wish him every success in the next chapter of his career."

Rich LaVoice, executive vice president of Life and Retirement Sales, will assume McCormick's responsibilities for national account management until a replacement is named.

**About Symetra**

Symetra Life Insurance Company is a subsidiary of Symetra Financial Corporation (NYSE: SYA), a diversified financial services company based in Bellevue, Wash. In business since 1957, Symetra provides employee benefits, annuities and life insurance through a national network of benefit consultants, financial institutions, and independent agents and advisors. For more information, visit [www.symetra.com](http://www.symetra.com).