# 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 12, 2008



# **Charter Communications, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

#### **Delaware**

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

000-27927

43-1857213

(Commission File Number)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

# 12405 Powerscourt Drive St. Louis, Missouri 63131

(Address of principal executive offices including zip code)

### (314) 965-0555

(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:

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

# ITEM 8.01 OTHER EVENTS.

On December 12, 2008, Charter Communications, Inc. ("Company") announced that it has asked its long-standing financial advisor, Lazard LLC, to initiate discussions with the Compan	y's
bondholders about financial alternatives to improve the Company's balance sheet.	

A copy of the press release announcing such discussions is attached as Exhibit 99.1.

# ITEM 9.01. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

A copy of the press release announcing the retention of Lazard LLC is attached.

Exhibit Number	Description
99.1*	Press release announcing the retention of Lazard LLC.
* filed herewith	

## **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Charter Communications, Inc. has duly caused this Current Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS, INC. Registrant

Dated: December 15, 2008

By:/s/ Kevin D. Howard Name: Kevin D. Howard

Title: Vice President, Controller and Chief Accounting Officer

# EXHIBIT INDEX

# Exhibit Number Description

99.1\* Press release announcing the retention of Lazard LLC.

\* filed herewith

#### **EXHIBIT 99.1**

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Charter Communications to Explore Alternatives to Enhance Financial Flexibility

ST. LOUIS – December 12, 2008 – Charter Communications, Inc. (NASDAQ: CHTR) ("Charter") announced today that it has asked its long-standing financial advisor, Lazard LLC, to initiate discussions with the Company's bondholders about financial alternatives to improve the Company's balance sheet.

"We believe engaging in discussions with our bondholders, aimed at improving our capital structure and enhancing our financial flexibility, is in the Company's and our customers' best interests," said Neil Smit, President and Chief Executive Officer. "In the third quarter 2008, revenues increased 7.3%, and net customer additions increased more than 50% year over year. Our objective in these discussions is to improve our balance sheet, which will better position Charter for the future, while we continue to focus on delivering quality service to our customers and growing our business."

Charter noted that its cash on hand and cash equivalents as of December 10, 2008, was in excess of \$900 million, which is available to pay operating costs and expenses.

#### **About Charter Communications**

Charter Communications, Inc. is a leading broadband communications company and the third-largest publicly traded cable operator in the United States. Charter provides a full range of advanced broadband services, including advanced Charter Digital Cable(R) video entertainment programming, Charter High-Speed(R) Internet access, and Charter Telephone(R). Charter Business(TM) similarly provides scalable, tailored, and cost-effective broadband communications solutions to business organizations, such as business-to-business Internet access, data networking, video and music entertainment services, and business telephone. Charter's advertising sales and production services are sold under the Charter Media(R) brand. More information about Charter can be found at www.charter.com.

#### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS:

This 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, regarding, among other things, our plans, strategies and prospects, both business and financial. Although we believe that our plans, intentions and expectations reflected in or suggested by these forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot assure you that we will achieve or realize these plans, intentions or expectations. Forward-looking statements are inherently subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions including, without limitation, the factors described under "Risk Factors" from time to time in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). Many of the forward-looking statements contained in this release may be identified by the use of forward-looking words such as "believe," "expect,"

"anticipate," "should," "plans," "will," "may," "intend," "estimated," "aim," "on track," "target," "opportunity" and "potential," among others. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements we make in this release are set forth in other reports or documents that we file from time to time with the SEC, including our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q filed in 2008 and our most recent annual report on Form 10-K and include, but are not limited to:

- the availability and access, in general, of funds to meet interest payment obligations under our debt and to fund our operations and necessary capital expenditures, either through cash on hand, cash flows from operating activities, further borrowings or other sources and, in particular, our ability to fund debt obligations (by dividend, investment or otherwise) to the applicable obligor of such debt;
- our ability to comply with all covenants in our indentures and credit facilities, any violation of which, if not cured in a timely manner, could trigger a default of our other obligations under cross-default provisions;
- our ability to repay debt prior to or when it becomes due and/or successfully access the capital or credit markets to refinance that debt through new issuances, exchange offers or otherwise, including restructuring our balance sheet and leverage position, especially given recent volatility and disruption in the capital and credit markets;
- the impact of competition from other distributors, including incumbent telephone companies, direct broadcast satellite operators, wireless broadband providers, and digital subscriber line ("DSL") providers;
- · difficulties in growing, further introducing, and operating our telephone services, while adequately meeting customer expectations for the reliability of voice services;
- our ability to adequately meet demand for installations and customer service;
- our ability to sustain and grow revenues and cash flows from operating activities by offering video, high-speed Internet, telephone and other services, and to maintain and grow our customer base, particularly in the face of increasingly aggressive competition;
- · our ability to obtain programming at reasonable prices or to adequately raise prices to offset the effects of higher programming costs;
- the outcome of our discussions with our bondholders;
- general business conditions, economic uncertainty or downturn, including the recent volatility and disruption in the capital and credit markets and the significant downturn in the housing sector and overall economy; and
- · the effects of governmental regulation on our business.

All forward-looking statements attributable to us or any person acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement. We are under no duty or obligation to update any of the forward-looking statements after the date of this release.