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GNC HOLDINGS, INC.

Form 8-K

September 11, 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)

September 11, 2014 (September 10, 2014)

GNC HOLDINGS, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware 001-35113 20-8536244 (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) (Commission File Number) (IRS Employer Identification No.)

300 Sixth Avenue

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (412) 288-4600

N/A

(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))

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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.

Effective September 10, 2014, Thomas J. Dowd resigned from his role as Executive Vice President, Chief Merchandising Officer and General Manager of GNC Holdings, Inc. (the "Company") and General Nutrition Centers, Inc. ("GNCI"). In connection with Mr. Dowd's resignation, Mr. Dowd, the Company and GNCI entered into a separation agreement and mutual general release and waiver (the "separation agreement"), dated as of September 10, 2014. The separation agreement contains both a general release of claims against the Company and GNCI by Mr. Dowd and a general release of claims against Mr. Dowd by the Company and GNCI.

Subject to the terms and conditions of the employment agreement by and among the Company, GNCI and Mr. Dowd, dated as of February 12, 2014 (the "employment agreement"), and subject to Mr. Dowd's execution and non-revocation of the separation agreement, Mr. Dowd will receive the compensation and benefits to which he is entitled under the employment agreement in the case of a termination by the Company without "cause" (as defined in the employment agreement), except that (1) five-twelfths of the severance amount payable to him will be paid in a lump sum on April 1, 2015, instead of being paid in installments between April 1, 2015 and September 10, 2015; and (2) the Company is agreeing that Mr. Dowd will only be subject to certain noncompetition covenants for 6 months, instead of 12 months, after his separation date. The Company has also agreed to reimburse Mr. Dowd for up to \$30,000 in legal fees incurred in connection with the separation agreement.

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

GNC HOLDINGS, INC.

Date: September 11, 2014 By: /s/ Gerald J. Stubenhofer, Jr.

Name: Gerald J. Stubenhofer, Jr.

Title: Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and

Secretary

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