
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

ATRICURE, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

000-51470
(Commission File Number)

34-1940305
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

6033 Schumacher Park Drive
West Chester, OH
(Address of principal executive offices)

45069
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (513) 755-4100

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 (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- 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 8.01. Other Events.

On December 12, 2008, AtriCure, Inc. (the "Company") became aware of a putative class action lawsuit captioned *Halford vs. AtriCure, Inc., et al.*, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, Western Division. The plaintiff alleges violations of Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder and seeks unspecified damages against the Company and certain of its current executive officers. The plaintiff alleges, among other things, that the defendants issued materially false and misleading statements that failed to disclose that the Company improperly promoted certain products to physicians and improperly caused the filing of false claims for reimbursement. The class period alleged runs from May 10, 2007 through October 31, 2008. The Company intends to vigorously defend this lawsuit and any additional related lawsuits that may be filed.

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 thereunto duly authorized.

ATRICURE, INC.

Date: December 15, 2008

By: /s/ Julie A. Piton

Julie A. Piton

Vice President, Finance and

Administration and Chief Financial Officer