

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 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 15, 2004

DIAMOND OFFSHORE DRILLING, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

DELAWARE	1-13926	76-0321760
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(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(IRS Employer Identification No.)

15415 KATY FREEWAY
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77094

(Address of Principal Executive Offices and Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (281) 492-5300

NOT APPLICABLE

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate line 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))

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE REPORT

ITEM 5.02. DEPARTURE OF DIRECTORS OR PRINCIPAL OFFICERS; ELECTION OF DIRECTORS; APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS.

ITEM 8.01. OTHER EVENTS

On October 15, 2004, the Board of Directors ("Board") of Diamond Offshore Drilling, Inc. (the "Company") appointed Vice Admiral Paul G. Gaffney II, USN (Ret.) to the Company's Board of Directors. The Board determined that Vice Admiral Gaffney is an independent director under the corporate governance rules of the New York Stock Exchange. The Board did not immediately appoint Vice Admiral Gaffney to serve on any committees, although it may do so in the future.

There are no understandings or arrangements between Vice Admiral Gaffney and any other person pursuant to which he was selected as a director of the Company. Vice Admiral Gaffney has been elected to serve until the next annual meeting of stockholders of the Company.

On October 15, 2004, the Company issued a press release announcing the appointment of Vice Admiral Gaffney to the Board. Filed herewith is a copy of such press release.

ITEM 9.01. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(c) Exhibits.

Exhibit number	Description
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99.1	Press Release of October 15, 2004

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.

DIAMOND OFFSHORE DRILLING, INC.

By: /s/ William C. Long

William C. Long
Vice President, General Counsel
and Secretary

Dated: October 15, 2004

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit number	Description
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99.1	Press Release of October 15, 2004

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: LES VAN DYKE
DIRECTOR, INVESTOR RELATIONS
(281) 492-5370

DIAMOND OFFSHORE DRILLING, INC. ANNOUNCES BOARD APPOINTMENT

Houston, Texas, October 15, 2004 -- Diamond Offshore Drilling, Inc. (NYSE: DO) today announced that it has appointed Vice Admiral Paul G. Gaffney II, USN (Ret.) to the Company's Board of Directors. Vice Admiral Gaffney is the president of Monmouth University. Previously, Admiral Gaffney spent 35 years in the United States Navy where he served in such postings as commander of the Navy Meteorology and Oceanography Command, the Chief of Naval Research and President of the National Defense University. Admiral Gaffney is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and holds a master's in mechanical engineering (ocean) from Catholic University and an MBA from Jacksonville University.

Diamond Offshore is a leader in deep water drilling. The Company's fleet of 45 offshore drilling rigs consists of 30 semisubmersibles, 14 jack-ups and one drillship. The fleet is located in the waters of six of the world's seven continents.