RENT A CENTER INC DE Form DEFA14A October 03, 2006

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 2, 2006

Rent-A-Center, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 0-25370 45-0491516

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

5700 Tennyson Parkway Suite 100 Plano, Texas 75024

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(972) 801-1100

(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)
- þ 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-14(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-14(c))

Item 8.01 Other Events.

On October 2, 2006, Rent-A-Center, Inc. announced that it anticipates refinancing its current senior debt by entering into a new senior credit facility to, among other things, finance the proposed acquisition of Rent-Way, Inc. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

In connection with the proposed merger, Rent-Way has filed a preliminary proxy statement and intends to file a final proxy statement and related materials concerning the transaction with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. THESE DOCUMENTS WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED MERGER AND SHAREHOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THEM CAREFULLY WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE. When available, Rent-Way will mail the final proxy statement and related materials to its shareholders. When filed with the SEC, the final proxy statement and related materials will be available for free (along with any other document and reports filed by Rent-Way with the SEC) at the SEC s website, http://www.sec.gov, and at Rent-Way s website, http://www.rentway.com.

Participant Information

Rent-Way and its directors and executive officers may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from Rent-Way shareholders in connection with the proposed merger. Certain information regarding the participants and their interests in the solicitation is set forth in the proxy statement for Rent-Way s 2006 annual meeting of shareholders filed with the SEC on January 31, 2006, and a Form 10-K filed by Rent-Way with the SEC on December 29, 2005, both of which are available free of charge from the SEC and Rent-Way at their web sites as indicated above. Information regarding the interests of these persons in the solicitation will be more specifically set forth in the final proxy statement concerning the proposed merger that will be filed by Rent-Way with the SEC and which will be available free of charge from the SEC and from Rent-Way at their websites, as indicated above. In addition, Rent-A-Center and its officers and directors may be deemed to have participated in the solicitation of proxies from Rent-Way s shareholders in favor of the approval of the acquisition. Information concerning Rent-A-Center s directors and executive officers is set forth in Rent-A-Center s proxy statement for its 2006 annual meeting of stockholders, which was filed with the SEC on March 31, 2006, and annual report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 10, 2006. These documents are available free of charge at the SEC s web site at www.sec.gov or by going to Rent-A-Center s Investor Relations Website at www.rentacenter.com.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1 Press Release, dated October 2, 2006.

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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.

RENT-A-CENTER, INC.

Date: October 2, 2006 By: /s/ Christopher A. Korst

Christopher A. Korst

Senior Vice President, General Counsel

and Secretary

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit

Number Description

99.1 Press Release, dated October 2, 2006.

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