

CNA FINANCIAL CORP  
Form 8-K  
October 28, 2004

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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 27, 2004**

**CNA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**

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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**

**1-5823**

**36-6169860**

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(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

(Commission  
File Number)

(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**CNA Center, Chicago, Illinois**

**60685**

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(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

(Zip Code)

(312)822-5000

**Not Applicable**

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(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 5.02 Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers.**

On October 27, 2004, Registrant issued a press release announcing that Brenda J. Gaines joined its Board of Directors, effective October 27, 2004. Ms. Gaines will serve on the board's Audit, Executive and Finance Committees. The press release is furnished as exhibit 99.1 to this Form 8-K.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(c) Exhibits:

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	CNA Financial Corporation press release, issued October 27, 2004. <b>SIGNATURES</b>

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.

CNA FINANCIAL CORPORATION  
(Registrant)

Date October 28, 2004

/s/ Lawrence J. Boysen

(Signature)\*

\*Print name and title of the signing officer under his signature.

By: Lawrence J. Boysen  
Its: Acting Chief Financial Officer