

**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) December 13, 2012

**NATIONAL WESTERN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY**  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

COLORADO  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

84-0467208  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

2-17039  
(Commission File Number)

850 EAST ANDERSON LANE, AUSTIN, TEXAS  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

78752-1602  
(Zip code)

(512) 836-1010  
(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

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:

- 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))

**Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

On December 13, 2012, the Board of Directors of National Western Life Insurance Company (the “Company”) appointed Kitty K. Nelson to the position of Senior Vice President, Chief Actuary, effective January 1, 2013. She succeeds Paul D. Facey who is retiring from the Company as of December 31, 2012.

Mrs. Nelson (ASA, MAAA) joined the Company in November 2002 and most recently served in the capacity of Vice President, Valuation Actuary.

**SIGNATURE**

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.

NATIONAL WESTERN LIFE INSURANCE

Date: December 14, 2012

/S/Brian M. Pribyl

Brian M. Pribyl  
Senior Vice President,  
Chief Financial Officer  
and Treasurer