

**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) May 22, 2009

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 8.01 Other Events

On May 22, 2009, National Western Life Insurance Company (“Company”) announced organizational changes via press release. A copy of the Company's press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1. This Form 8-K and the attached exhibit are provided under Item 8.01 of Form 8-K and are furnished to, but not filed with, the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The press release is available at the Company's website, www.nationalwesternlife.com.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release dated May 22, 2009

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
COMPANY

/S/Brian M. Pribyl

Date: May 22, 2009

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

EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release of National Western Life Insurance Company issued May 22, 2009 announcing organizational changes.

NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL WESTERN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

EXHIBIT 99.1

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Western Life Announces Organizational Changes

Austin, Texas, May 22, 2009 - Ross R. Moody, President of National Western Life Insurance Company (Nasdaq: NWLI), announced today senior level organizational role changes in conjunction with a multi-million dollar project to implement five new service solutions augmenting the Company's enterprise-wide systems and capabilities.

Michael P. Hydanus, Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer, was assigned additional responsibilities as the Chief Administrative Officer of National Western Life. In his new role as Senior Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Hydanus will be responsible for integrating enhanced system technology associated with the multi-million dollar project into the daily operational and administrative service processes of the Company. Mr. Moody indicated, "Mike's past experience in similar roles with other insurance companies and as a consultant to the insurance industry uniquely position him to lead us in this significant investment in upgrading our information technology and operational infrastructure." The five system projects are expected to be completed and operational in various phases within the next one to three years.

Brian M. Pribyl, previously Senior Vice President, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer, will relinquish his responsibilities as Chief Administrative Officer to focus upon the Company's financial reporting and regulatory requirements. "In the past five or six years, the additional requirements placed upon public companies by the Securities and Exchange Commission through Sarbanes-Oxley and the current financial crisis, along with evolving accounting standard changes, have made the CFO job more demanding and this shift in responsibilities will allow Brian to devote more of his time to these matters," Mr. Moody noted.

Founded in 1956, National Western Life is a stock life insurance company offering a broad portfolio of individual universal life, whole life and term insurance plans, annuity products, and investment contracts meeting the financial needs of its customers in 49 states as well as residents of various countries in Central and South America, the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, Asia and the Pacific Rim. The Company has approximately 290 employees and 9,700 contracted independent agents, brokers and consultants, and at March 31, 2009, maintained total assets of \$6.9 billion, stockholders' equity of \$1.0 billion, and life insurance in force of \$18.7 billion.