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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): **March 3, 2014**

**MFA FINANCIAL, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Maryland**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation  
or organization)

**1-13991**  
(Commission File Number)

**13-3974868**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**350 Park Avenue, 20th Floor**  
**New York, New York**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**10022**  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(212) 207-6400**

**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 (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 Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers**

(d) *Appointment of Richard Byrne to Board of Directors.* On March 3, 2014, the Board of Directors of MFA Financial, Inc. (the "Company") elected Richard Byrne as a director of the Company, effective as of such date. In connection with his election, the Board of Directors has appointed Mr. Byrne to serve on each of the Audit Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board. A copy of the press release reporting on Mr. Byrne's election is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

**Item 9.01      Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release, dated March 3, 2014, regarding the election of Richard Byrne to the Board of Directors of MFA Financial, Inc.

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.

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.  
(REGISTRANT)

By: /s/ Harold E. Schwartz  
Name: Harold E. Schwartz

Date: March 5, 2014

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

<b><u>Exhibit No.</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>
99.1	Press Release, dated March 3, 2014, regarding the election of Richard Byrne to the Board of Directors of MFA Financial, Inc.

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**PRESS RELEASE  
RELEASE**

**March 3, 2014**

**Investor Contact:** MFA Investor Relations  
212-207-6433  
www.mfafinancial.com

**Media Contact:** Abernathy MacGregor  
Tom Johnson, Andrew Johnson  
212-371-5999

**FOR IMMEDIATE**

**NEW YORK METRO**

**NYSE: MFA**

**MFA Financial, Inc. Elects Richard Byrne to Board of Directors**

NEW YORK — MFA Financial, Inc. (NYSE: MFA) announced today that its Board of Directors has elected Richard Byrne to its Board. Mr. Byrne fills the vacancy left by the resignation of a former director at the end of 2013.

Mr. Byrne, age 52, is the President of Benefit Street Partners LLC, the credit investment arm of Providence Equity Partners, a leading global private equity firm. Mr. Byrne joined Benefit Street Partners in April 2013 from Deutsche Bank Securities, Inc., where he served as Chief Executive Officer.

“We are very pleased to welcome Rich to the MFA Board,” said George H. Krauss, MFA’s Chairman of the Board. “Rich has a deep understanding of the capital markets and his business expertise and leadership experience will be a valuable asset to MFA and our Board.”

Prior to serving as CEO of Deutsche Bank Securities, Inc., Mr. Byrne was Co-Head of Global Capital Markets at Deutsche Bank. Prior to Deutsche Bank, Mr. Byrne was Co-Head of Global Leveraged Finance and Head of Global Credit Research at Merrill Lynch. Mr. Byrne earned a Masters in Business Administration from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and his B.A. from Binghamton University.

MFA is a real estate investment trust primarily engaged in the business of investment, on a leveraged basis, in Agency and Non-Agency residential mortgage-backed securities.