### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, DC 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 21, 2011

#### MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Maryland
(State or Other Jurisdiction (Commission (IRS Employer File No.))
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

350 Park Avenue, 21st Floor, New York, New York 10022
(Address of Principal Executive Office) (Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code:

(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:

- " 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 March 21, 2011, Mr. Edison C. Buchanan notified MFA Financial, Inc. ("MFA") of his intention to not stand for re-election to the Board of Directors (the "Board") at MFA's next annual meeting of stockholders. Therefore, Mr. Buchanan's term as a director will end at that meeting. Mr. Buchanan has not advised MFA of any disagreement with MFA on any matter relating to the company's operations, policies or practices. The Board thanks Mr. Buchanan for his many years of service and valuable contributions to MFA.

## **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.

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

By: /s/Timothy W. Korth

Timothy W. Korth General Counsel and Senior Vice President

Date: March 24, 2011