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WASHINGTON FEDERAL INC Form 8-K March 27, 2018

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 26, 2018

Washington Federal, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Washington 001-34654 91-1661606 (State or other jurisdiction (Commission (IRS Employer of incorporation) File Number) Identification No.)

425 Pike Street, Seattle, Washington 98101

(Address of principal executive offices)(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (206) 624-7930

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):

- o 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)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company o

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes o No x

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Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure

Today Washington Federal, Inc. ("the Company") announced that independent director Thomas J. Kelley was named Vice Chairman of the Board and will succeed Roy M. Whitehead as Chairman of the Board upon his planned retirement effective December 31, 2018. A copy of the press release announcing the Company's board leadership succession plan is attached as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

- (a) Not applicable
- (b) Not applicable
- (c) Not applicable
- (d) The following exhibit is being furnished herewith:
- 99.1 Press Release dated March 26, 2018

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 thereunto duly authorized.

March 26, 2018 WASHINGTON FEDERAL, INC.

By: /s/ VINCENT L. BEATTY Vincent L. Beatty Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer