

MEXICAN RESTAURANTS INC

FORM 8-K

(Current report filing)

Filed 09/05/07 for the Period Ending 08/30/07

Address	1135 EDGEBROOK HOUSTON, TX 77034
Telephone	7139437574
CIK	0001009244
Symbol	CASA
SIC Code	5812 - Eating Places
Industry	Restaurants
Sector	Services
Fiscal Year	12/28

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): August 30, 2007



MEXICAN RESTAURANTS, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

000-28234
(Commission
File Number)

76-0493269
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

1135 EDGEBROOK, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77034-1899
(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code): **(713) 943-7574**

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))
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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.

(c) On August 31, 2007, Mexican Restaurants, Inc. issued a press release announcing that Christopher Smith has joined the Company as Senior Vice President for Mission Burritos, the Company's fast casual concept. The Board of Directors elected Mr. Smith effective August 30, 2007 at their August 17, 2007 Board meeting.

Mr. Smith, age 46, has extensive experience in the restaurant industry, formerly serving as Vice President-Operations for Star Concessions, Ltd. from February 2006 to August 2007 and in various positions with Chipotle Mexican Grill from 1998 to 2005, most recently as Operations Director - Texas.

There are no family relationships between Mr. Smith and any director, executive officer or nominee for executive officer or director of the Company, and the Company has not had any transaction or proposed transaction with Mr. Smith or any of his family members prior to his appointment.

In connection with his appointment, Mr. Smith is to receive a restricted stock grant of 10,000 shares of common stock, with 2,000 shares to vest upon commencement of employment and the balance to vest in 25% increments over the next four years, and a stock option grant of 20,000 shares of common stock, to vest in 20% annual increments beginning on the first anniversary of his start date. In addition, Mr. Smith will receive an award of 40,000 performance units which vest if there is a business combination on or before August 30, 2012 involving the Company at a per share price of \$20 or greater.

A copy of the press release describing Mr. Smith's appointment is attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

The following is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K:

99.1 [Mexican Restaurants, Inc. press release dated August 31, 2007.](#)

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.

MEXICAN RESTAURANTS, INC.

Date: September 5, 2007

By: /s/ Andrew J. Dennard

Name: Andrew J. Dennard

Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial
Officer, Treasurer and Corporate Secretary

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Mexican Restaurants, Inc. press release dated August 31, 2007



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mexican Restaurants, Inc.
Andrew J. Dennard
713-943-7574

**Mexican Restaurants, Inc. Names New Senior Vice President for Mission Burritos
(NASDAQ:CASA)**

August 31, 2007 (Houston, Texas) – Mexican Restaurants, Inc. (“MRI”) (NASDAQ:CASA) CEO Curt Glowacki announced today that Christopher Smith has joined the MRI family as Senior Vice President for Mission Burritos.

Mr. Smith has extensive experience in the restaurant industry, formerly serving as Vice President-Operations for Star Concessions, Ltd. and Operations Director – Texas for Chipotle Mexican Grill.

“Chris brings proven leadership and experience in the fast casual segment of the restaurant industry to our Company. He will lead the charge for our newest growth vehicle, Mission Burritos, a fast casual concept,” stated Mr. Glowacki. “At Chipotle, Chris was responsible for building a strong operating management team that supervised 60 restaurants under his leadership. Chris also developed new markets for Chipotle that involved him with concept design and development, real estate site selection, new store construction, human resources, marketing and training.”

“Chris’ values, work ethic and experience fit well into our corporate culture, which is committed to continuous improvement. Our goal is to be best in class. Chris shares that goal. I welcome Chris and look forward to working with him.”

Mexican Restaurants, Inc. operates and franchises 78 Mexican restaurants. The current system includes 58 company-operated restaurants, 19 franchise operated restaurants and one licensed restaurant. For more information, visit www.mexicanrestaurantsinc.com.

Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others, the following: growth strategy; dependence on executive officers; geographic concentration; increasing susceptibility to adverse conditions in the region; changes in consumer tastes and eating and discretionary spending habits; the risk of food-borne illness; national, regional or local economic and real estate conditions; demographic trends; inclement weather; traffic patterns; the type, number and location of competing restaurants; inflation; increased food, labor and benefit costs; the availability of experienced management and hourly employees; seasonality and the timing of new restaurant openings; changes in governmental regulations; dram shop exposure; and other factors not yet experienced by the Company. The use of words such as “believes”, “anticipates”, “expects”, “intends” and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements, but are not the exclusive means of identifying such statements. Readers are urged to carefully review and consider the various disclosures made by the Company in this release and in the Company’s most recently filed Annual Report and Form 10-K that attempt to advise interested parties of the risks and factors that may affect the Company’s business.