

PARKER DRILLING CO /DE/

Form 8-K

December 11, 2006

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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): December 7, 2006
PARKER DRILLING COMPANY
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	1-7573 (Commission File Number) 1401 Enclave Parkway, Suite 600 Houston, Texas 77077 (Address of principal executive offices, including zip code) (281) 406-2000 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)	73-0618660 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
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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 Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

SIGNATURE

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Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

(b) On December 7, 2006, Dr. Robert M. Gates resigned from the Board of Directors of the Company effective December 8, 2006. Mr. Gates has been appointed as the Secretary of Defense of the United States.

S I G N A T U R E

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.

PARKER DRILLING COMPANY

Dated: December 11, 2006

By: /s/ Ronald C. Potter
Ronald C. Potter
Vice President & General Counsel