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): December 30, 2020 (December 28, 2020)

NEWELL BRANDS INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) 1-9608 (Commission File Number) 36-3514169 (IRS Employer Identification Number)

6655 Peachtree Dunwoody Rd. Atlanta, GA 30328 (Address of principal executive offices including zip code)

(770) 418 - 7000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

| | Trading | Name of exchange |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Title of each class | Symbol | on which registered |
| Common stock, \$1 par value per share | NWL | The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC |

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company \Box

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. \Box

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

On December 28, 2020, Newell Brands Inc. (the "Company") and Christopher H. Peterson, Chief Financial Officer and President, Business Unit Operations entered into a letter of amendment (the "Amendment") to Mr. Peterson's compensation arrangement dated June 25, 2019 (the "2019 Offer Letter"), which was entered in connection with Mr. Peterson's service in 2019 as Interim Chief Executive Officer of the Company and set forth certain rights applicable to him in the event of a voluntary termination of employment under certain conditions. The 2019 Offer Letter was filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") on a Current Report on Form 8-K on June 26, 2019.

Pursuant to the Amendment, Mr. Peterson will be entitled to receive the following compensation and benefits in the event of a voluntary termination of employment effective as of a date that falls between March 2, 2022 and April 30, 2022, upon at least sixty days written notice to the Company:

- (i) payment of his management bonus for 2021 (to the extent not previously paid as of the termination of his employment) on the basis of actual corporate performance levels and subject to any adjustments or modifiers based on the Company's performance under the terms of the Management Bonus Plan (including the impact of any discretionary adjustment by the Board of Directors or its Organizational Development & Compensation Committee which is generally applicable to employees of the Company participating in the Management Bonus Plan);
- (ii) vesting of a pro rata portion of his performance-based restricted stock unit award granted in February 2020 (the "2020 PRSU Award"), which would have otherwise vested after his termination date, as if he remained employed through the applicable vesting date (subject to the satisfaction of any applicable performance conditions). The portion of the 2020 PRSU Award which shall be permitted to vest shall be calculated on a pro rata basis to reflect the number of days between the grant date and his termination date relative to the total number of days constituting the vesting period of such award. If he voluntarily terminates employment with the Company at any time, any unvested portion of all restricted stock unit or stock option awards other than the 2020 PRSU Award shall be forfeited, unless provided otherwise in the applicable award agreement or his Employment Security Agreement; and
- (iii) a waiver of any repayment obligations related to relocation payments made to him or on his behalf as a result of his participation in the Company's Executive Relocation Program.

In order to receive the foregoing benefits, Mr. Peterson will be required to sign a reasonable separation agreement (including confidentiality, non-solicitation and non-competition obligations) in the form substantially similar to that required of similarly - situated employees of the Company.

Except as expressly set forth in the Amendment, the Amendment does not amend, alter or extend any terms set forth in the 2019 Offer Letter or Mr. Peterson's Compensation Arrangement dated November 21, 2018 (the "2018 Offer Letter") that was filed with the SEC on the Company's 2018 Annual Report on Form 10-K. To the extent that Mr. Peterson is entitled to receive termination benefits under the 2018 Offer Letter or his existing Employment Security Agreement, his termination benefits will be governed exclusively by the terms of his 2018 Offer Letter or Employment Security Agreement, as applicable, unless he elects to receive the benefits under the terms of the Amendment and waives any benefits to which he is entitled under his Employment Security Agreement and 2018 Offer Letter.

The foregoing summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Amendment, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 10.1 and is incorporated by reference herein.

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Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|----------------|--|
| 10.1 | Amendment to 2019 Offer Letter of Christopher H. Peterson, dated December 28, 2020 |
| 104 | Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as inline XBRL) |

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.

NEWELL BRANDS INC.

By: /s/ Bradford R. Turner Bradford R. Turner Chief Legal and Administrative Officer and Corporate Secretary

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Dated: December 30, 2020



December 26, 2020

Christopher Peterson Via email

Dear Chris,

This letter amends your offer letter dated June 25, 2019 (the "2019 Offer Letter"), which was extended in connection with to your service in 2019 as Interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Newell Brands ("Newell" or the "Company") and set forth certain rights applicable to you in the event of a voluntary termination of employment by you under certain conditions. Your role as Interim CEO ended in October 2019, and you are currently employed as Chief Financial Officer and President, Business Operations for the Company.

Should you elect to voluntarily terminate your employment with the Company effective as of a date that falls from March 2, 2022 to April 30, 2022, upon not less than sixty days' written notice delivered to the Company no earlier than January 1, 2022 and no later than March 1, 2022, you shall be entitled to the following:

- You will remain entitled to receive your Management Bonus for 2021 (to the extent not previously paid as of the termination of your employment). This bonus payment will not be subject to any individual performance modifier but will be paid out on the basis of actual corporate performance levels and will be subject to any adjustments or modifiers based on the Company's performance under the terms of the Management Bonus Plan (including the impact of any discretionary adjustment by the Board of Directors or its Organizations Development & Compensation Committee which is generally applicable to employees of the Company employees, no later than March 15, 2022.
- All of your unvested restricted stock units ("RSUs") and stock options shall be forfeited on the date of termination of your employment, except that a pro rata portion of that RSU award granted to you by the Company in February 2020 (the "2020 RSU Award") which would have otherwise vested after your termination date will vest as if you remained employed through the applicable vesting date (subject to the satisfaction of any applicable performance conditions). The portion of the 2020 RSU Award which shall be permitted to vest shall be calculated on a pro rata basis to reflect the number of days between the grant date and your termination date relative to the total number of days constituting the vesting period of such award. The timing of payment for RSUs that become vested as described in this paragraph will be determined in a manner consistent with the award agreements that govern the applicable awards, but will in all cases be intended to comply with or be exempt from Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code. For the avoidance of doubt, if you voluntarily terminate your employment with the Company at any time, any unvested portion of all RSU or stock option awards other than the 2020 RSU Award shall be forfeited, unless provided otherwise in the applicable award agreement or your Employment Security Agreement.
- You will not be required to repay any relocation payments made to you or on your behalf as a result of your participation in the Company's Executive Relocation Program.

- In order to receive the foregoing benefits, you will be required to sign a reasonable separation agreement (including confidentiality, non-solicitation and non-competition obligations) in the form substantially similar to that required of similarly-situated employees of the Company, within 45 days after the termination of your employment and not revoke such release within the time permitted by law (which consideration period and revocation period together may not exceed 60 days following termination of employment). Such release may require repayment of any of the foregoing benefits if you are later found to have committed acts that would have justified a termination for Good Cause (as defined in your Existing Offer Letter, as defined below).
- Notwithstanding anything else set forth herein to the contrary, in the event you are actually entitled to receive benefits following a termination of your employment under your offer letter dated November 21, 2018 (which will remain in full force and effect) (the "Existing Offer Letter") or your Employment Security Agreement in connection with your termination, you will not be entitled to receive the foregoing benefits pursuant to this letter, and your severance benefits will be governed exclusively by the terms of your Employment Security Agreement or Existing Offer Letter, as applicable, unless you elect to receive the foregoing benefits under the terms of this letter and waive any benefits to which you are entitled under the Employment Security Agreement and the Existing Offer Letter.

Payments and benefits provided under this letter are intended to be exempt from, or comply with, Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code. This letter shall be construed, administered, and governed in a manner that affects such intent, and Newell shall not take any action that would be inconsistent with such intent. Without limiting the foregoing, the payments and benefits provided under this letter may not be deferred, accelerated, extended, paid out or modified in a manner that would result in the imposition of additional tax under Code Section 409A. Although Newell shall use its best efforts to avoid the imposition of taxation, interest and penalties under Code Section 409A, the tax treatment of the benefits provided under this letter is not warranted or guaranteed. Neither the Company nor its affiliates nor its or their directors, officers, employees or advisers shall be held liable for any taxes, interest, penalties or other monetary amounts owed by you or any other taxpayer as a result of this letter.

Except as expressly set forth herein, this letter does not amend, alter or extend any terms set forth in your Existing Offer Letter or the 2019 Offer Letter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Stephen B. Parsons

Stephen B. Parsons Chief Human Resources Officer To indicate your acceptance of this offer, please sign in the space provided below and return it to the Company's Chief Legal & Administrative Officer, Brad Turner, at <u>bradford.turner@newellco.com</u>.

Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, you acknowledge and agree that all bonus payouts and other awards described herein are subject to the terms and conditions of the Company's clawback policy (if any) as may be in effect from time to time specifically to implement Section 10D of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and any applicable rules or regulations promulgated thereunder (including applicable rules and regulations of any national securities exchange on which the Company's common stock may be traded).

/s/ Christopher H. Peterson

Signature

Christopher H. Peterson

Printed Name

December 28, 2020

Date