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SIERRA HEALTH SERVICES INC
Form 8-K
February 20, 2003

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

February 20, 2003

SIERRA HEALTH SERVICES, INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Nevada	1-8865
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(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)	(Commission File Number)

88-0200415

(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

2724 North Tenaya Way Las Vegas, Nevada	89128
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(Address of principal executive offices)	(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (702) 242-7000

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure

On Thursday, February 20, 2003, Sierra Health Services, Inc., or Sierra, issued a press release raising earnings estimates from continuing operations for 2003, based on preliminary data for January and February. A copy of that press release

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is filed as Exhibit 99 to this report and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure

Exhibits

Description

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Press Release Dated February 20, 2003

Statements in the press release referred to above that are not historical facts are forward-looking and based on management's projections, assumptions and estimates; actual results may vary materially. Forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties, which include but are not limited to: 1) potential adverse changes in government regulations, contracts and programs, including TRICARE, Medicare, Medicaid and legislative proposals to eliminate or reduce ERISA pre-emption of state laws that would increase potential managed care litigation exposure; 2) competitive forces that may affect pricing, enrollment and benefit levels; 3) unpredictable medical costs, malpractice exposure, reinsurance costs and inflation; 4) impact of economic conditions; 5) changes in healthcare and workers' compensation reserves; 6) our failure to win the competitive procurement for the North Region TRICARE Next Generation contract; and 7) the amount of actual proceeds realized upon the final disposition of the workers' compensation insurance operation or the inability to dispose of such business. Further factors concerning financial risks and results are contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001. Such statements are made pursuant to the "safe harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and identify important risk factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed in any projected, estimated or forward-looking statements relating to Sierra.

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.

SIERRA HEALTH SERVICES, INC.

(Registrant)

Date: February 20, 2003

/S/ PAUL H. PALMER

Paul H. Palmer
Senior Vice President
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
(Chief Accounting Officer)