

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) April 8, 1997

<TABLE>  
<CAPTION>

BARRETT BUSINESS SERVICES, INC.

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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

<S>	Maryland	<C>	0-21886	<C>	52-0812977
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	(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)		(Commission File Number)		(IRS Employer Identification No.)

4724 SW Macadam Avenue, Portland, Oregon	97201
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(Address of principal executive offices)	(Zip Code)

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Registrant's telephone number, including area code (503) 220-0988  
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Item 5. Other Events.

On April 8, 1997, Barrett Business Services, Inc. ("Barrett") reported that its farm and forest labor contractor license had been revoked by the State of Oregon through a default judgment received on April 4, 1997. The license revocation included civil penalties of \$488,000. The State's action is based upon allegations that Barrett violated certain requirements imposed on farm and forest labor contractors. The effect of the license revocation is to preclude Barrett from conducting business with certain customers, which represented approximately \$4.0 million of Barrett's 1996 revenues of \$215.8 million, or less than two percent.

Barrett had previously disclosed that it had received a notice from the State outlining certain purported deficiencies primarily related to written documentation evidencing that the terms and conditions of employment and workers' rights and remedies had been properly communicated to employees.

The State's assertions prevailed through a default judgment as a result of the failure by one of Barrett's law firms to file a response to the notice within the prescribed 20-day period. Barrett believes that the State's allegations are substantially without merit and intends to promptly pursue administrative relief of the default judgment.

Accompanying this report as Exhibit 99 is a copy of the news release, dated April 8, 1997, in which Barrett announced the revocation of its farm and forest labor contractor license and the assessment of \$488,000 in civil penalties.

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Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

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SIGNATURE

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.

DATED: April 9, 1997

Barrett Business Services, Inc.

By: /s/ Michael D. Mulholland  
Michael D. Mulholland  
Vice President - Finance

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit  
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99 News Release of Barrett Business Services, Inc., dated April 8, 1997

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: William W. Sherertz  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer

Telephone: (503) 220-0988

BARRETT BUSINESS SERVICES, INC.  
ANNOUNCES ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES

PORTLAND, OREGON, April 8, 1997 - Barrett Business Services, Inc. (Nasdaq trading symbol: "BSSI") announced today that its farm and forest labor contractor license has been revoked by the State of Oregon through a default judgment. The license revocation included civil penalties of \$488,000. The State's action is based upon allegations that Barrett violated certain requirements imposed on farm and forest labor contractors.

The Company had previously disclosed that it had received a notice from the State outlining certain purported deficiencies primarily related to written documentation evidencing that the terms and conditions of employment and workers' rights and remedies had been properly communicated to employees.

The State's assertions prevailed through a default judgment as a result of the failure by one of the Company's law firms to file a response to the notice within the prescribed 20-day period.

Commenting on the situation, President and Chief Executive Officer William W. Sherertz stated that, "We believe the State's allegations are without merit, and due to an error, we apparently will not have the opportunity to defend our company and our customers. The State did not allege any mistreatment or abuse of employees. The fines were levied for the alleged lack of proper written documentation; it's simply a matter of whether or not we have the paperwork -- and we do. We will continue to vigorously seek an equitable resolution."

Barrett Business Services, Inc., is a human resource management company with offices in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California, Arizona, Michigan, Maryland, and Delaware. Barrett reported revenues of \$215.8 million and net income of \$5.0 million for 1996.

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