

GROUP 1 AUTOMOTIVE INC  
Form 8-K  
December 14, 2009

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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 10, 2009

Group 1 Automotive, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

1-13461

76-0506313

(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

(Commission  
File Number)

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

800 Gessner, Suite 500, Houston, Texas

77024

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

713-647-5700

Not Applicable

Former name or former address, if changed since last report

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.**

On December 10, 2009, Group 1 Automotive, Inc. (the "Company") announced that Mark J. Iuppenlatz has been appointed vice president, corporate development effective January 1, 2010. Mr. Iuppenlatz served in a similar capacity from 1999 to 2007 at Sonic Automotive Inc. Most recently he has been managing partner of Animas Valley Land & Water Co., a diversified real estate development and management group. In his new role, Mr. Iuppenlatz will be responsible for all automotive and real estate acquisitions along with real estate and construction management services.

A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On December 10, 2009, the Company also announced the promotion of Kim Craig to vice president and treasurer, effective January 1, 2010. A copy of the press release is attached to this report as Exhibit 99.1.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

99.1 Press release of Group 1 Automotive, Inc., dated as of December 10, 2009.

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**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.

Group 1 Automotive, Inc.

*December 10, 2009*

By: */s/Darryl M. Burman*

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*Name: Darryl M. Burman*

*Title: Vice President*

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Exhibit Index

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
99.1	Press release of Group 1 Automotive, Inc., dated as of December 10, 2009.