

FIRST INTERSTATE BANCSYSTEM INC

Form 8-K

October 19, 2011

**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): October 19, 2011

**FIRST INTERSTATE BANCSYSTEM, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Montana**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**001-34653**  
(Commission  
File No.)

**81-0331430**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

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**401 North 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Billings, MT 59101**  
**(Address of principal executive offices)**  
**(406) 255-5390**

**(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)**

**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 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))

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

On October 19, 2011, the Board of Directors of First Interstate BancSystem, Inc. (the Company), approved the appointment of Edward Garding to serve as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company upon the retirement of Lyle R. Knight, who is currently serving as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, on April 1, 2012.

Mr. Garding, 62, has served as Chief Operating Officer of the Company since August 2010. He has been an Executive Vice President since 2004 and was Chief Credit Officer of the Company from 1999 until September 2010. Mr. Garding also served as a Senior Vice President of the Company from 1996 through 2003 and President of the Sheridan market from 1988 to 1996. Prior to joining the Company's management team in 1996, he served in various positions since 1971, when he joined the Company as a management trainee.

A copy of the press release is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated by reference herein.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibit 99.1 Press Release dated October 19, 2011 announcing the appointment of Edward Garding as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company.

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: October 19, 2011

FIRST INTERSTATE BANCSYSTEM, INC.

By: /s/ LYLE R. KNIGHT  
Lyle R. Knight  
President and Chief Executive Officer