
**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): February 12, 2025

CV SCIENCES, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

000-54677
(Commission File Number)

80-0944970
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

9530 Padgett Street, Suite 107
San Diego, California
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

92126
(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: (866) 290-2157

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))

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

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company 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

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.

Item 8.01 Other Events

On February 12, 2025, CV Sciences, Inc. (the “Company”) initiated an arbitration with JAMS asserting claims against its long-time legal counsel, Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP, and a former partner of that firm, who the Company had regarded as its general counsel (together “Procopio”). The Company’s engagement agreement with Procopio requires the resolution of such disputes through arbitration. Procopio provided the Company legal advice and guidance on when the Company’s former Chief Executive Officer and Board Chair, Michael J. Mona, Jr. (“Mona”), would recognize W-2 income and be subject to payroll and income tax withholding resulting from the settlement of restricted stock units (“RSUs”) previously awarded to Mona. According to Procopio, because Mona was then an insider within the meaning of Section 16(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and he was subject to suit and disgorgement of short-swing profits if he sells stock within six months of the settlement date of the RSUs, Mona does not recognize W-2 income on the settlement date and that Mona would recognize W-2 income and be subject to tax withholding upon the expiration of the six month period under Section 16(b). Consequently, the Company issued to Mona a share certificate evidencing his ownership of shares of the Company’s stock then valued at more than \$13 million that Mona constructively received upon the settlement of his RSUs without withholding taxes. After Mona received the certificate, without acknowledging its prior advice and guidance, Procopio changed its prior advice and advised the Company that tax withholding was required as of the settlement date. Procopio continued to represent the Company to resolve the lack of withholding, address the fallout therefrom, report the same in its periodic reports filed with the SEC and numerous other legal matters. The Company disclosed the lack of withholding in its Form 10-Q for the quarter ended, March 31, 2019, and in subsequent quarterly and annual reports. The Company has also disclosed in its prior reports filed with the SEC that the lack of withholding has been the subject of multiple legal proceedings, the most recent of which involved a case brought by Mona against the Company that was resolved in November 2024 in the Company’s favor in a binding arbitration. After that case was submitted to the arbitrator for decision, the Company sought to address with Procopio the legal advice and guidance it provided. Procopio responded by terminating the Company as a client on January 10, 2025, ending the Company’s 12-year relationship with Procopio as its legal counsel. The Company seeks to recover damages from Procopio resulting from its reliance on Procopio’s advice and guidance, including fees and expenses paid to Procopio and other professionals, expenses incurred by the Company and other harm to it.

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.

Date: February 18, 2025

CV SCIENCES, INC.

By:

/s/ Joseph Dowling
Joseph Dowling
Chief Executive Officer

