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 6, 2017

ABM Industries Incorporated

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) **1-8929** (Commission File Number) 94-1369354 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

One Liberty Plaza, 7th Floor New York, New York (Address of principal executive offices) **10006** (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 297-0200

N/A

(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 (see General Instruction A.2. below):

□ 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))

Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure

On February 6, 2017, ABM Security Services, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of ABM Industries Incorporated ("ABM") entered into a Class Action Settlement and Release Agreement with Plaintiffs Jennifer Augustus, Emanuel Davis, Delores Hall, Carlton Anthony Waite, and Carlos Villacres, on behalf of themselves and the settlement class members, to settle *Augustus et. al. v. ABM Security Services, Inc.* (Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case Nos. BC336416, BC345918 & CG544421) (the "*Augustus* Settlement Agreement") on a classwide basis for \$110 million. The Augustus Settlement Agreement is contingent upon the approval of the Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County (the "Superior Court").

The previously reported *Augustus* case is a certified class action involving alleged violations of certain California state laws relating to rest breaks. The case centers on whether requiring security guards to remain on call during rest breaks violated Section 226.7 of the California Labor Code. On July 31, 2012, the Superior Court entered judgment in favor of plaintiffs in the amount of approximately \$89.7 million (the "common fund"). Subsequently, the Superior Court also awarded plaintiffs' attorneys' fees of approximately \$4.5 million in addition to approximately 30% of the common fund. Under California law, post-judgment interest on the judgment accrues at a rate of 10% simple interest per year from the date the judgment was entered until it is satisfied. ABM appealed the Superior Court's rulings to the Court of Appeals of the State of California, Second Appellate District (the "Appeals Court"). On December 31, 2014, the Appeals Court issued its opinion, reversing the judgment in favor of the plaintiffs and vacating the award of \$89.7 million in damages and the attorneys' fees award. On December 22, 2016, the California Supreme Court reversed the judgment of the Appeals Court and held in favor of the plaintiffs. The amount of post-judgment interest on December 22, 2016, was approximately \$41.2 million.

ABM has also entered into a Settlement Term Sheet with plaintiff in connection with *Karapetyan v. ABM Industries Incorporated and ABM Security Services, Inc.* (Central District of California Case No. CV-15-08313) (the "*Karapetyan* case") to settle the case on a classwide basis for \$5 million. The *Karapetyan* case is a putative class action in which the plaintiff seeks to represent a class of security guards. The putative class primarily consists of guards who worked during time periods subsequent to the *Augustus* class period. Plaintiff alleges that ABM violated certain California state laws relating to meal and rest breaks and other wage and hour claims. The *Karapetyan* settlement is contingent upon the finalization of a long-form settlement agreement with respect to the *Karapetyan* case and will be further contingent on the final approval by the United States District Court for the Central District of California, as well as final approval by the Superior Court of the Augustus Settlement Agreement.

A copy of the press release dated February 7, 2017 relating to the *Augustus* case and the *Karapetyan* case is attached to this Current Report on Form 8-K as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit Number	Description
99.1	Press release dated February 7, 2017 relating to <i>Augustus et. al. v. ABM Security Services, Inc.</i> (Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case Nos. BC336416, BC345918 & CG544421) and <i>Karapetyan v. ABM Industries Incorporated and ABM Security Services, Inc.</i> (Central District of California Case No. CV-15-08313).

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.

ABM INDUSTRIES INCORPORATED

(Registrant)

Date: February 7, 2017

/s/ Barbara L. Smithers Barbara L. Smithers Vice President and Deputy General Counsel

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ABM Industries Enters into Agreement to Settle Class Action Lawsuit

NEW YORK, NY – February 7, 2017 - ABM (NYSE:ABM), a leading provider of facility solutions, today announced that on February 6, 2017, the Company entered into an agreement to settle all claims in the class action lawsuit <u>Augustus et. al. v. ABM</u> <u>Security Services, Inc</u>. on a class-wide basis for \$110 million (pre-tax). The settlement is subject to the final approval of the Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County. The Augustus case relates to ABM's security business which was sold in October 2015. On December 22, 2016, the California Supreme Court reversed a judgment in favor of ABM in the Appeals Court and held in favor of the plaintiffs. The amount of the original judgment in *Augustus* was \$89.7 million and attorney's fees of \$4.5 million, with interest continuing to accrue until the judgment is satisfied. As of December 22, 2016, post-judgment interest was approximately \$41.2 million.

ABM has also entered into a settlement term sheet relating to <u>Karapetyan v. ABM Industries Incorporated and ABM Security</u> <u>Services, Inc.</u> to settle the case on a class-wide basis for \$5 million. Karapetyan, which also relates to ABM's divested Security business, is a putative class action alleging that ABM violated certain California state laws relating to meal and rest breaks and other wage and hour claims. The Karapetyan settlement is contingent upon the finalization of a settlement agreement, final approval of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, and final approval by the Superior Court of the Augustus case.

In light of the recent decision by the Supreme Court of California in the Augustus case, and in consideration of the likely length of the appeals process as well as its uncertainty, ABM believes this settlement is in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders. The settlement does not constitute an admission of liability, culpability, negligence, or wrongdoing on the part of ABM.

Scott Salmirs, President and Chief Executive Officer of ABM Industries, commented, "While we disagree with the decision of the California Supreme Court, we are pleased to have reached a resolution in these longstanding legal matters related to our previously-held Security business."

Mr. Salmirs continued, "We remain excited about our 2020 Vision and continue to be on track with our long term objectives. We look forward to sharing our progress on our upcoming earnings call."

The Company is currently evaluating the settlement's financial impact and will provide additional details on its next quarterly conference call.

The Company expects to announce earnings results for the first fiscal quarter of 2017 on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 after market close. Details of the quarterly conference call will be announced in late February 2017.

ABOUT ABM

ABM (<u>NYSE: ABM</u>) is a leading provider of facility solutions with revenues of approximately \$5.1 billion and over 100,000 employees in 300+ offices throughout the United States and various international locations. ABM's comprehensive capabilities include janitorial, electrical & lighting, energy solutions, facilities engineering, HVAC & mechanical, landscape & turf, mission critical solutions and parking, provided through stand-alone or integrated solutions. ABM provides custom facility solutions in urban, suburban and rural areas to properties of all sizes - from schools and commercial buildings to hospitals, data centers, manufacturing plants and airports. ABM Industries Incorporated, which operates through its subsidiaries, was founded in 1909. For more information, visit <u>www.abm.com</u>.

Cautionary Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

This press release contains both historical and forward-looking statements. In this context, ABM Industries Incorporated ("ABM") and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as "ABM," "we," "us," "our," or the "Company"). We make forward-looking statements related to future expectations, estimates and projections that are uncertain, and often contain words such as "anticipate," "believe," "could," "estimate," "expect," "forecast," "intend," "likely," "may," "outlook," "plan," "predict," "should," "target," or other similar words or phrases. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and assumptions that are difficult to predict. For us, particular uncertainties that could cause our actual results to be materially different from those expressed in our forward-looking statements include: (1) changes to our businesses, operating structure, financial reporting structure, or personnel relating to the implementation of our 2020 Vision strategic transformation initiative may not have the desired effects on our financial condition and results of operations; (2) we may face difficulties identifying, acquiring, and integrating businesses; (3) we have high deductibles for certain insurable risks, and therefore we are subject to volatility associated with those risks, including the possibility that changes in estimates of ultimate insurance losses could result in a material charge against our earnings; (4) our risk management and safety programs may not have the intended effect of allowing us to reduce our insurance costs for casualty programs; (5) our business success depends on our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel and senior management; (6) our business success depends on our ability to preserve our long-term client relationships; (7) losses or other incidents at facilities in which we operate could cause significant damage to our reputation and financial loss; (8) our success depends on our ability to continue to gain profitable business despite competitive pressures; (9) costs that we cannot pass through to clients could affect our profitability; (10) our business may be negatively impacted by adverse weather conditions; (11) negative or unexpected tax consequences could adversely affect our results of operations; (12) we may not achieve the expected benefits from our captive insurance company; (13) changes in energy prices and government regulations, could adversely impact the results of operations of our Building & Energy Solutions business; (14) significant delays or reductions in appropriations for our government contracts may negatively affect our business and could have an adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows; (15) our ability to do business may be affected by the failure of our joint venture partners to perform their obligations; (16) we could be subject to cyber-security risks, information technology interruptions, and business continuity risks; (17) operations in areas of military conflict expose us to additional risks; (18) general reductions in commercial office building occupancy could affect our revenues and profitability; (19) deterioration of general economic conditions could reduce the demand for facility services and, as a result, reduce our earnings and adversely affect our financial condition; (20) unfavorable developments in our class and representative actions and other lawsuits alleging various claims could cause us to incur substantial liabilities; (21) changes in immigration laws or enforcement actions or investigations under such laws could significantly adversely affect our labor force, operations, and financial results; (22) our participation in multiemployer pension plans could result in material liabilities; (23) future increases in the level of our borrowings or in interest rates could affect our results of operations; (24) impairment of goodwill and longlived assets could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations; (25) actions of activist investors could disrupt our business; and (26) catastrophic events, disasters, and terrorist attacks could disrupt our services. The list of factors above is illustrative and by no means exhaustive. Additional information regarding these and other risks and uncertainties we face is contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended October 31, 2015 and in other reports we file from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission (including all amendments to those reports). We urge readers to consider these risks and uncertainties in evaluating our forwardlooking statements. We caution readers not to place undue reliance upon any such forward- looking statements, which speak only as of the date made. We undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise, except as required by law.

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