

INDEPENDENCE HOLDING CO  
Form 8-K  
December 07, 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): December 1, 2011

**INDEPENDENCE HOLDING COMPANY**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware** (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)      **010306** (Commission File Number)      **58-1407235** (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**96 Cummings Point Road, Stamford, Connecticut** (Address of principal executive offices)      **06902** (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(203) 358-8000**

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 240a-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 240.13a-4(c))

**Item 1.01**

**Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.**

On December 1, 2011, Standard Security Life Insurance Company of New York ( SSL ), an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Independence Holding Company ( IHC ), entered into a Reinsurance Agreement (the Agreement ) with First Security Benefit Life Insurance and Annuity Company of New York ( FSB ). Subject to required regulatory approvals, under the Agreement, FSB will indemnify SSL for 100% of SSL s obligations under a certain block of group annuity contracts. This reinsurance arrangement is made in anticipation of FSB s eventual assumption (novation) of such contracts, subject to any required policyholder consent. In connection with the transaction, SSL will transfer approximately \$144 million to a pledged custody account created by FSB, representing the assets required to be held under applicable insurance laws in connection with the contracts being reinsured and assumed under the Agreement.

**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.

**INDEPENDENCE HOLDING COMPANY**

(Registrant)

/s/ Adam C. Vandervoort

Date: December 7, 2011

Adam C. Vandervoort

Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary