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ACACIA RESEARCH CORP Form 8-K December 18, 2009

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 17, 2009

ACACIA RESEARCH CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 000-26068 95-4405754
(State or other jurisdiction of (Commission File Number) (IRS Employer Identification incorporation) No.)

500 Newport Center Drive 92660 Newport Beach, California (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (949) 480-8300

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 (see General Instruction A.2. below):

oWritten communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

oSoliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

oPre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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Item 8.01 Other Events.

Data Detection Systems LLC, a subsidiary of Acacia Research Corporation, has entered into a license and settlement agreement with BMC Software, Inc. The agreement resolves patent litigation, Civil Action No. 4:09-cv-01204, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

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 hereunto duly authorized.

ACACIA RESEARCH CORPORATION

Date: December 17, 2009 By: /s/ Paul R. Ryan

Name: Paul R. Ryan

Title: Chairman and Chief Executive

Officer

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