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): March 29, 2019

Atara Biotherapeutics, Inc.

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) 001-36548 (Commission File Number) 46-0920988 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

611 Gateway Boulevard, Suite 900 South San Francisco, CA (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

94080 (Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: (650) 278-8930

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 Instructions 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))

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 \Box

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

(b)

On March 29, 2019, Joel S. Marcus notified Atara Biotherapeutics, Inc. (the "*Company*") of his decision to resign from the Company's Board of Directors effective immediately. Mr. Marcus's resignation is not the result of any disagreement with the Company on any matter relating to the Company's operations, policies or practices.

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 thereunto duly authorized.

Atara Biotherapeutics, Inc.

By: /s/ Mina Kim

Mina Kim SVP, General Counsel and Secretary

D ate: April 3, 2019