

ASTA FUNDING INC
Form 8-K
February 06, 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): January 30, 2009

ASTA FUNDING, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)	0-26906 (Commission File Number)	22-3388607 (IRS Employer Identification No.)
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210 Sylvan Avenue, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey (Address of Principal Executive Offices)	07632 (Zip Code)
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Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **201-567-5648**

(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))

Item 8.01. Other Events

As previously reported, Palisades Acquisition XVI, LLC (“Palisades XVI”), an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Asta Funding, Inc. (the “Company”), entered into a Receivables Financing Agreement, (as amended, the “Agreement”), with, among other parties, BMO Capital Markets Corp. (“BMO”), pursuant to which Palisades XVI borrowed approximately \$227 million in order to finance a portion of the \$300 million purchase price for a portfolio of approximately \$6.9 billion in face value receivables. As a result of the actual collections being lower than the minimum collection rates required under the Agreement for the months ended November 30, 2008, December 31, 2008, and January 31, 2009 termination events occurred under the Agreement.

Palisades XVI and BMO continue to negotiate a fourth amendment (the “Fourth Amendment”) to the Receivables Financing Agreement, which would, among other things, lower the minimum collection rate and, under certain circumstances, extend the maturity date. In connection with the proposed Fourth Amendment, the Company is negotiating limited credit support (representing less than 2 percent of its total assets) for the benefit of BMO, and an intercreditor agreement (the “Intercreditor Agreement”). This arrangement will require the consent of the consortium of banks that provide the Company’s existing line of credit under the Fourth Amended and Restated Loan Agreement (the “Credit Agreement”). In connection with obtaining such consent, the Company is also discussing other amendments, including amending certain provisions of the Credit Agreement (the “Credit Agreement Amendment”) to reduce the maximum availability and amend certain financial covenants of the Credit Agreement. There can be no assurance the Company will be able to negotiate any or all of the Fourth Amendment, the Intercreditor Agreement or the Credit Agreement Amendment and related documents, or that the terms of any such documents will be favorable to the Company.

In order to address these issues, the parties to the Agreement have executed a series of waivers of the termination event, the latest of which is dated as of January 30, 2009, which now provides that, among other things, the termination event would be waived until February 13, 2009.

The Company anticipates signing the amendments and related documents shortly.

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

ASTA FUNDING, INC.

Date: February 6, 2009

By: /s/ Gary Stern

Gary Stern

President & Chief Executive Officer