

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: March 2, 2018  
(Date of earliest event reported)

SUN COMMUNITIES, INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland

1-12616

38-2730780

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(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

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(Commission File Number)

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(IRS Employer Identification No.)

27777 Franklin Rd.

Suite 200

Southfield, Michigan

48034

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(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

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(Zip Code)

(248) 208-2500

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(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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))

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

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 8.01 Other Events.**

On March 2, 2018, Sun Communities, Inc. (the “Company”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) a prospectus supplement dated March 2, 2018, pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, pursuant to the Company’s effective shelf registration statement on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-204911). The prospectus supplement was filed to register the resale from time to time by certain selling stockholders of up to 258,061 shares of the Company’s common stock.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits.

| <u>Exhibit No.</u> | <u>Description</u>  | <u>Method of Filing</u> |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 5.1                | Opinion of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, a Professional Corporation       | Filed herewith          |
| 8.1                | Opinion of Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer & Weiss, Professional Corporation, as to certain tax matters | Filed herewith          |
| 23.1               | Consent of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, a Professional Corporation       | Included in Exhibit 5.1 |
| 23.2               | Consent of Consent of Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer & Weiss, Professional Corporation                 | Included in Exhibit 8.1 |

## 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.

Sun Communities, Inc.

By:

/s/ Karen J. Dearing

Karen J. Dearing, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer

Date: March 7, 2018

## EXHIBIT INDEX

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March 7, 2018

Sun Communities, Inc.  
27777 Franklin Road, Suite 200  
Southfield, Michigan 48034

Re: Sun Communities, Inc. – Registration Statement on Form S-3

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as special Maryland counsel to Sun Communities, Inc., a Maryland corporation (the “Company”), in connection with the registration for resale by selling stockholders named in a supplement to the prospectus (the “Prospectus Supplement”) to the Company’s registration statement on Form S-3 (the “Registration Statement”), File No. 333-204911, filed on March 2, 2018 with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) relating to the registration by the Company, under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder, of 258,061 shares (the “Shares”) of the Company’s common stock, \$0.01 par value.

The Prospectus Supplement, along with the prospectus (the “Prospectus”) included in the Registration Statement, will be furnished to potential purchasers of the Shares to be offered for sale by the selling stockholders named in the Prospectus Supplement. We understand that our opinion is required to be filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement.

In our capacity as special Maryland counsel to the Company and for purposes of this opinion, we have reviewed the originals, or copies certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of the following documents:

- A. the charter of the Company, certified on the date hereof as being true, correct and complete copies thereof, by the Secretary of the Company (the “Charter Documents”);
- B. the bylaws of the Company, certified on the date hereof as being true, correct and complete copies thereof, by the Secretary of the Company (the “Bylaws”);
- C. the Registration Statement, the Prospectus and the Prospectus Supplement in the form in which they were filed with the SEC;
- D. a certified copy of consent resolutions of the Board of Directors of the Company regarding certain matters addressed in this opinion (the “Resolutions”);

E. a certificate of the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation dated March 6, 2018 to the effect that the Company is duly incorporated and existing under the laws of the State of Maryland and is in good standing and duly authorized to transact business in the State of Maryland;

F. a copy of the Agreement and Plan of Merger among Western Media, Inc. (and certain shareholders thereof), the Company and Sun WM Acquisition, LLC, dated as of July 7, 2017, pursuant to which Western Media, Inc. was merged with and into Sun WM Acquisition, LLC (the "Merger");

G. a certificate of the Company regarding certain matters related to the Merger and the issuance, sale and ownership of the Shares, and certain other factual matters (the "Certificate"); and

H. such other documents, corporate records and instruments as we have deemed necessary or appropriate, in our professional judgment, in connection with providing this opinion letter.

In rendering the opinion set forth below, we have assumed: (i) the genuineness of all signatures and the legal capacity of all individuals who have executed any of the documents reviewed by us; (ii) the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity with originals of all documents submitted to us as certified, photostatic or facsimile copies or portable document file ("pdf") or other electronic image format copies (and the authenticity of the originals of such copies), and that the form and content of all documents submitted to us as unexecuted drafts do not differ in any respect relevant to this opinion from the form and content of such documents as executed and delivered; (iii) there has been no oral or written modification of or amendment to any of the documents we have reviewed, and there has been no waiver of any provision of any of the documents we have reviewed in connection with this opinion, by action or omission of the parties or otherwise; (iv) that all documents submitted to us and public records we reviewed or relied upon are accurate and complete; (v) that the Charter, the Bylaws and the Resolutions have not been amended or rescinded; and (vi) that the persons identified as officers of the Company are actually serving as such.

the form and content of all documents submitted to us as unexecuted drafts do not differ in any respect relevant to this opinion from the form and content of such documents as executed and delivered, all documents submitted to us as certified or photostatic or facsimile copies or portable document file ("pdf") or other electronic image format copies conform to the original documents (and the authenticity of the originals of such copies),

We have also assumed that: (i) at the time of the issuance of the Shares, the Company or its transfer agent recorded in the Company's stock ledger the names of the persons to whom the Shares were issued; (ii) as to all acts undertaken by any governmental authority, and of those persons purporting to act in any governmental capacity, the persons acting on behalf of the governmental authority have the power and authority to do so, and all actions taken by such persons on behalf of such governmental authority are valid, legal and sufficient; and (iii) all representations, warranties, certifications and statements with respect to matters of fact and other factual information (a) made by public officers, (b) made by officers or representatives of the

Company, including certifications made in the Certificate, and (c) in any documents we have reviewed, are accurate, true, correct and complete in all material respects.

As to any facts material to our opinion set forth below, without undertaking to verify the same by independent investigation, we have relied exclusively upon the documents reviewed by us, the statements and information set forth in such documents, the Certificate and the additional matters recited or assumed in this letter, all of which we assume to be true, complete and accurate in all respects.

Based upon the foregoing and subject to the limitations and assumptions set forth herein, and having due regard for such legal considerations as we deem relevant, we are of the opinion that the Shares have been validly issued and are fully paid and nonassessable

The foregoing opinion is based on and is limited to the Maryland General Corporation Law (including the reported judicial decisions interpreting those laws currently in effect), and we express no opinion herein with respect to the effect or applicability of any other laws or the laws of any other jurisdiction. The opinion expressed herein concerns only the effect of the laws (excluding the principles of conflict of laws) as currently in effect, and we assume no obligation to supplement the opinion expressed herein if any applicable laws change after the date hereof, or if we become aware of any facts that might change the opinion expressed herein after the date hereof. The opinion is limited to the matters set forth herein, and no other opinion should be inferred beyond the matters expressly stated.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, we express no opinion concerning the securities laws of the State of Maryland, or the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, or any decisional laws interpreting any of the provisions of the securities laws of the State of Maryland, or the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion with the Commission as Exhibit 5 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K relating to the filing of the Prospectus Supplement, which is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, and to the reference to our firm under the caption "Legal Matters" in the Prospectus Supplement. By giving such consent, we do not admit that we are experts with respect to any part of the Registration Statement, including Exhibit 5.1, within the meaning of the term "expert" as used in the Securities Act or the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

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Very truly yours,

BAKER, DONELSON,  
BEARMAN, CALDWELL  
& BERKOWITZ, a professional  
corporation

By: /s/ Kenneth B. Abel  
Kenneth B. Abel  
Authorized Representative

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March 7, 2018

Sun Communities, Inc.  
27777 Franklin Road  
Suite 200  
Southfield, MI 48034

Attention: Board of Directors

Dear Members of the Board of Directors of Sun Communities, Inc.:

We have acted as counsel to Sun Communities, Inc., a Maryland corporation (the “Company”), and Sun Communities Operating Limited Partnership, a Michigan limited partnership (the “Partnership”), in connection with the registration statement on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-204911) (together with all amendments and exhibits thereto and documents incorporated by reference therein, the “Registration Statement”) filed on June 12, 2015 by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”) and the resale from time to time of up to 258,061 shares (the “Shares”) of the Company’s common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, pursuant to the Registration Statement and a prospectus dated June 12, 2015 and a prospectus supplement dated March 1, 2018 (collectively, the “Prospectus”). You have requested our opinion concerning the Company’s qualification for federal income tax purposes as a real estate investment trust (“REIT”). This opinion letter is furnished to you at your request for submission as an exhibit to the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K relating to the offering of the Shares, which is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, to fulfill the requirements of Item 601(b)(8) of Regulation S-K, 17 C.F.R. 229.601(b)(8).

**Basis for Opinions**

The opinions set forth in this letter are based on relevant current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), Treasury regulations thereunder (including proposed and temporary Treasury regulations), and interpretations of the foregoing as expressed in

court decisions, legislative history, and administrative determinations of the Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”) (including its practices and policies in issuing private letter rulings, which are not binding on the IRS, except with respect to a taxpayer that receives such a ruling), all as of the date hereof. These provisions and interpretations are subject to changes (which may apply retroactively) that might result in material modifications of our opinions. Our opinions do not foreclose the possibility of a contrary determination by the IRS or a court of competent jurisdiction, or of a contrary position by the IRS or the Treasury Department in regulations or rulings issued in the future. In this regard, although we believe that our opinions set forth herein will be sustained if challenged, an opinion of counsel with respect to an issue is not binding on the IRS or the courts, and is not a guarantee that the IRS will not assert a contrary position with respect to such issue or that a court will not sustain such a position asserted by the IRS. In rendering the following opinions, we have examined such statutes, regulations, records, certificates and other documents as we have considered necessary or appropriate as a basis for such opinions, including (but not limited to) the following: (1) the Articles of Restatement of the Company; (2) the partnership agreement of the Partnership and the form of partnership agreement or limited liability company operating agreement, as applicable, used to organize and operate the partnerships and limited liability companies in which the Partnership and/or the Company owns an interest (the entities referred to in this clause 2 are collectively referred to as the “Partnership Subsidiaries”); (3) the organizational documents and stock ownership records of Carefree Communities, Inc., a company organized and operated as a REIT in which the Partnership owns all of the outstanding common stock (“CCI”) and (4) the organizational documents and stock ownership records of Sun Home Services, Inc., a company in which the Partnership owns all of the outstanding stock (“SHS” and, together with the Partnership, the Partnership Subsidiaries, CCI and the Company, the “Group Entities”).

We also have reviewed and relied upon the factual representations, statements and covenants of the Company and CCI contained in letters (the “REIT Certificates”) regarding the formation, organization and operation of the Group Entities and other matters of fact contained in the REIT Certificates affecting the Company’s ability to qualify as a REIT. We have neither investigated nor verified such representations and statements and the Group Entities’ ability to comply with such covenants. We assume that each such representation, statement and covenant has been, is, and will be true, correct and complete, that the Group Entities are and will be owned and operated in accordance with the REIT Certificates and that all representations, statements and covenants that speak to the best of the belief and/or knowledge of any person(s) or party(ies), or are subject to similar qualification, have been, are and will continue to be true, correct and complete as if made without such qualification. To the extent that the REIT Certificates speak to the intended or future organization, ownership or operations of the Group Entities, we assume that such Group Entities will in fact be organized, owned and operated in accordance with such stated intent.

We have made such legal and factual inquiries, including an examination of the documents set forth above, as we have deemed necessary or appropriate for purposes of rendering our opinion. For purposes of rendering our opinion, however, we have not made an independent investigation

or audit of the facts set forth in the above referenced documents. We are not aware, however, of any material facts or circumstances contrary to, or inconsistent with, the representations we have relied upon as described herein or other assumptions set forth herein. Finally, our opinion is limited to the tax matters specifically covered herein, and we have not addressed, nor have we been asked to address, any other tax matters relevant to the Company.

In connection with our opinion, we have assumed, with your consent:

- (1) that all of the representations and statements set forth in the documents (including, without limitation, the REIT Certificates) we reviewed are true and correct, and all of the obligations imposed by any such documents on the parties thereto, including obligations imposed under the Company's Articles of Restatement, as amended and supplemented from time to time, have been and will be performed or satisfied in accordance with their terms;
- (2) the genuineness of all signatures, the proper execution of all documents, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity to originals of documents submitted to us as copies, and the authenticity of the originals from which any copies were made;
- (3) that each of the Group Entities will continue to be operated in the manner described in the relevant partnership agreement, articles (or certificate) of incorporation or other organizational documents and in the REIT Certificates; and
- (4) that the Company is a validly organized and duly incorporated corporation under the laws of the State of Maryland, that the Partnership and each of the Partnership Subsidiaries is a duly organized and validly existing partnership or limited liability company, as the case may be under the applicable laws of the state in which it is purported to be organized, that CCI is a validly organized and duly incorporated corporation under the laws of Delaware and that SHS is a validly organized and duly incorporated corporation under the laws of Michigan.

## Opinion

Based upon, subject to, and limited by the assumptions and qualifications set forth herein, we are of the opinion that: (i) commencing with the taxable year ended December 31, 1994, the form of organization of the Company and its prior and proposed ownership and operations as described in the REIT Certificates are such as to enable the Company to qualify as a REIT under the applicable provisions of the Code and (ii) the statements set forth under the heading "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" in the Prospectus, insofar as such statements purport to

describe or summarize certain provisions of the statutes or regulations referred to therein, are accurate descriptions or summaries in all material respects.

We assume no obligation to advise you of any change in our opinion or of any new developments in the application or interpretation of the federal income tax laws subsequent to the date of this opinion letter. The Company's qualification and taxation as a REIT depend upon the Company's ability to meet on a continuing basis, through actual annual operating and other results, the various requirements under the Code with regard to, among other things, the sources of its gross income, the composition of its assets, the level of its distributions to stockholders, and the diversity of its stock ownership. We will not review the Company's compliance with these requirements on a continuing basis. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that the actual results of the operations of the Company and the other Group Entities, the sources of their income, the nature of their assets, the level of the Company's distributions to its stockholders and the diversity of the Company's stock ownership for any given taxable year will satisfy the requirements under the Code for qualification and taxation as a REIT.

This opinion is rendered solely in connection with the filing of the Registration Statement and the offering of the Shares. We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, which is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement and to the reference to our firm name in the Prospectus under the caption "Legal Matters." In giving such consent, we do not hereby admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act or the rules or regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission thereunder. This opinion may not be relied upon for any other purpose, is not intended for the express or implied benefit of any third party other than purchasers of the securities registered pursuant to the Registration Statement, and is not to be used or relied upon for any other purpose, without our prior written consent in each instance.

Very truly yours,

/s/ JAFFE, RAITT, HEUER & WEISS  
Professional Corporation