UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 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 8, 2018

CERUS CORPORATION
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware	**000-21937**	**68-0262011**
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)	**(Commission File Number)**	**(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)**

2550 Stanwell Drive **Concord, California**	**94520**
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)	**(Zip Code)**

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code (925) 288-6000

(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):

☐ Written communication 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 communication pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

☐ Pre-commencement communication 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 (17 CFR §230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2).

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 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On January 8, 2018, Cerus Corporation (the "Company") announced its preliminary product revenue results for the fourth quarter and fiscal year ended December 31, 2017. A copy of the Company's press release, entitled "Cerus Corporation Announces Preliminary Product Revenue Results for Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2017," is furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 as Exhibit 99.1 hereto.

The information in this report, including the exhibit hereto, shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of Section 11 and 12(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The information contained herein and in the accompanying exhibit shall not be incorporated by reference into any filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission made by the Company, whether made before or after the date hereof, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits.

The following exhibit is furnished with this report:

99.1	Press release, dated January 8, 2018, entitled "Cerus Corporation Announces Preliminary Product Revenue Results for Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2017."

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.

CERUS CORPORATION

Dated: January 8, 2018

By: /s/ Kevin D. Green
Kevin D. Green
Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer

Exhibit 99.1

Cerus Corporation Announces Preliminary Product Revenue Results for Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2017

Record preliminary product revenue reported along with expected strong 2018 growth

CONCORD, CA, January 8, 2018 – Cerus Corporation (NASDAQ: CERS) today announced unaudited preliminary product revenue for the fourth quarter and full year 2017 and provided 2018 product revenue guidance.

Cerus' unaudited preliminary product revenue for the fourth quarter of 2017 was $16.2 million, an increase of 60% compared to fourth quarter of 2016. Driving the growth was an increase in global demand for INTERCEPT platelet kits of more than 100%. Preliminary results in the quarter reflect the initial rollout for broad use of the INTERCEPT Blood Systems for platelets in France. Based on the fourth quarter unaudited preliminary product revenue, the Company expects full year 2017 product revenue to be $43.6 million, representing an increase of 17% compared to prior year product revenue. The preliminary product revenue results reported have not been audited and are subject to change.

"Preliminary fourth quarter sales results exceeded our expectations and would mark the highest quarterly product revenue ever reported by Cerus. We finished 2017 on a solid note and look forward to building on this success throughout 2018," said William 'Obi' Greenman, Cerus' president and chief executive officer.

"As we enter 2018, we are excited to expand patient access to INTERCEPT across the EMEA markets, to continue to drive U.S. product adoption, and to expand our INTERCEPT commercial portfolio with the anticipated CE Mark submission for red cells and the progress on our planned cryoprecipitate PMA supplement submission. We anticipate 2018 product revenue to be in the range of $51 million to $53 million, representing 17 to 22% growth," continued Greenman.

Cerus will provide complete fourth quarter and full year 2017 financial results and host a call in early March.

ABOUT CERUS

Cerus Corporation is a biomedical products company focused in the field of blood transfusion safety. The INTERCEPT Blood System is designed to reduce the risk of transfusion-transmitted infections by inactivating a broad range of pathogens such as viruses, bacteria and parasites that may be present in donated blood. The nucleic acid targeting mechanism of action of the INTERCEPT treatment is designed to inactivate established transfusion threats, such as hepatitis B and C, HIV, West Nile virus and bacteria, as well as emerging pathogens such as chikungunya, malaria and dengue. Cerus currently markets and sells the INTERCEPT Blood System for both platelets and plasma in the United States, Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Middle East and selected countries in other regions around the world. The INTERCEPT Red Blood Cell system is in clinical development. See http://www.cerus.com for information about Cerus.

INTERCEPT and the INTERCEPT Blood System are trademarks of Cerus Corporation.

Forward Looking Statements

Except for the historical statements contained herein, this press release contains forward-looking statements concerning Cerus' products, prospects and expected results, including statements relating to Cerus' expected product revenue for the fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2017; Cerus' expectation of expanding patient access to INTERCEPT across the EMEA markets and continuing to drive U.S. product adoption; Cerus' planned INTERCEPT red blood cell CE Mark submission; anticipated progress with Cerus' planned cryoprecipitate PMA supplement submission; Cerus' anticipated 2018 annual product revenue; and other statements that are not historical fact. Actual results could differ materially from these forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including, without limitation: risks related to preliminary financial results, including the risks (a) that the preliminary financial results reported in this press release only reflect information available to Cerus at this time and may differ from actual results, (b) that the preliminary financial results reported in this press release have not been reviewed or audited by Cerus' independent registered public accounting firm, which independent registered public accounting firm has not expressed any opinion or any other form of assurance with respect to such preliminary financial results, and (c) that there can be no assurance that Cerus' actual financial results for the periods presented in this press release will not differ from the preliminary financial results presented in this press release and such differences could be material; risks associated with the commercialization and market acceptance of, and customer demand for, the INTERCEPT Blood System, including the risks that Cerus may not (a) meet its annual revenue guidance for 2018, (b) grow sales in its EMEA and other major international markets, and/or (c) realize meaningful revenue contributions from U.S. customers in the near term or at all, particularly since Cerus cannot guarantee the volume or timing of commercial purchases, if any, that its U.S. customers may make under Cerus' commercial agreements with these customers; risks associated with Cerus' lack of commercialization experience in the United States and its ability to develop and maintain an effective and qualified U.S.-based commercial organization, as well as the resulting uncertainty of its ability to achieve market acceptance of and otherwise successfully commercialize the INTERCEPT Blood System for platelets and plasma in the United States, including as a result of licensure requirements that must be satisfied by U.S. customers prior to their engaging in interstate transport of blood components processed using the INTERCEPT Blood System; risks related to Fresenius Kabi's efforts to assure an uninterrupted supply of platelet additive solution (PAS); risks related to how any future PAS supply disruption could affect

INTERCEPT's acceptance in the marketplace; risks related to how any future PAS supply disruption might affect current commercial contracts; risks related to Cerus' ability to commercialize the INTERCEPT Blood System in the United States without infringing on the intellectual property rights of others; risks related to Cerus' ability to demonstrate to the transfusion medicine community and other health care constituencies that pathogen reduction and the INTERCEPT Blood System is safe, effective and economical; the uncertain and time-consuming development and regulatory process, including the risks (a) that Cerus may be unable to comply with the FDA's post-approval requirements for the INTERCEPT platelet and plasma systems, including by successfully completing required post-approval studies, which could result in a loss of U.S. marketing approval for the INTERCEPT platelet and/or plasma systems, (b) related to Cerus' ability to expand the label claims and product configurations for the INTERCEPT platelet and plasma systems in the United States, which will require additional regulatory approvals, (c) related to unanticipated difficulties in meeting the planned cryoprecipitate PMA supplement requirements, including the risk that the FDA could require additional clinical data to support potential approval, (d) that Cerus' blood center customers may be unable to obtain approvals by the FDA of BLAs they have submitted to the FDA allowing for interstate transport of blood components processed using the INTERCEPT Blood System in a timely manner or at all, which could significantly delay or preclude Cerus' ability to successfully commercialize the INTERCEPT Blood System to those customers for the portion of their business involved in interstate commerce, and (e) that Cerus may be unable to file for CE Mark approval of the red blood cell system in Europe in the anticipated timeframe or at all, and even if filed, Cerus may be unable to obtain CE Mark approval, or any other regulatory approvals, of the red blood cell system in a timely manner or at all; risks related to adverse market and economic conditions, including continued or more severe adverse fluctuations in foreign exchange rates and/or weakening economic conditions in the markets where Cerus sells its products; Cerus' reliance on third parties to market, sell, distribute and maintain its products; Cerus' ability to maintain an effective manufacturing supply chain, including the ability of its manufacturers to comply with extensive FDA and foreign regulatory agency requirements; the impact of legislative or regulatory healthcare reforms that may make it more difficult and costly for Cerus to produce, market and distribute its products; risks related to future opportunities and plans, including the uncertainty of future revenues and other financial performance and results, as well as other risks detailed in Cerus' filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including Cerus' Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2017, filed with the SEC on November 3, 2017. In addition, the preliminary financial results reported in this press release should not be viewed as a substitute for full financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP and are not necessarily indicative of the results to be achieved for any future periods. Cerus disclaims any obligation or undertaking to update or revise any forward-looking statements contained in this press release.

Contact:

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