Wood Brian K Form 4 January 26, 2010

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

January 31, Expires: 2005

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

Name and Address of Reporting Person * Wood Brian K	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol VENTAS INC [VTR]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
(Last) (First) (Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)			
10350 ORMSBY PARK PLACE, SUITE 300	(Month/Day/Year) 01/22/2010	Director 10% Owner Street Other (specification) Other (specification) SVP-Tax			
(Street)	4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person			
LOUISVILLE, KY 40223		Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			

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(City)	(State) (Zip) Table	e I - Non-D	erivative Securiti	ies Acq	uired, Disposed of	f, or Beneficiall	y Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date any (Month/Day/Year)		3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)			5. Amount of Securities Form: Direct Securities Form: Direct Owned Indirect (I) Following (Instr. 4)		ip 7. Nature of ct Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code V	(A) or Amount (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)			
Common Stock	01/22/2010		F	576 (1) D	\$ 42.75	20,814.255	D		
Common Stock						2,527 <u>(2)</u>	I	By IRA	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Titl	e and	8. Price of	9
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	onNumber	Expiration Da	ate	Amou	nt of	Derivative	J
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	5
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Secur	ities	(Instr. 5)]
	Derivative		•		Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		(
	Security				Acquired			`]
	J				(A) or]
					Disposed						-
					of (D)						(
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
					.,						
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration		or		
						Date	Title Num	Number			
						LACICISAUIC	Date		of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Wood Brian K 10350 ORMSBY PARK PLACE, SUITE 300 LOUISVILLE, KY 40223

SVP-Tax

9. Nu Deriv Secu

Owner Follo Repo Trans (Insti

Signatures

Brian K. Wood, By: T. Richard Riney, Attorney-In-Fact

01/26/2010

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Represents shares withheld to pay the taxes on the vesting of restricted stock granted on January 22, 2008 under the Ventas, Inc. 2006 Incentive Plan.
- (2) As of January 22, 2010, Reporting Person also owns options to purchase 28,220 shares of Issuer's common stock.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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