Reed Robert D. Form 4 January 05, 2009

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. Form 4 or

January 31, Expires: 2005

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

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person ** Reed Robert D.			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer		
<i>a</i>			VENTAS INC [VTR]	(Check all applicable)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction			
			(Month/Day/Year)	_X_ Director 10% Owner		
2200 RIVER PLAZA DRIVE			01/01/2009	Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)		
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person		
SACRAMEN	NTO, CA 9	5833		Form filed by More than One Reporting		

SACRAMENTO,	CA 95833

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-l	Derivative S	ecurit	ies Acqui	red, Disposed of	, or Beneficiall	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securitie oner Disposed (Instr. 3, 4 a	d of (Ľ))	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	01/01/2009		A	186.178 (1)	A	\$ 33.57	2,763.52	D	
Common Stock	01/01/2009		A	2,059 (2)	A	\$0	4,822.52	D	

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.

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

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	ative Expiration Date s (Month/Day/Year) l of		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 33.57	01/01/2009		A	5,000 (3)	01/01/2009(4)	01/01/2019	Common Stock	5,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
•	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
Reed Robert D. 2200 RIVER PLAZA DRIVE SACRAMENTO, CA 95833	X						

Signatures

Robert D. Reed, By: T. Richard Riney,
Attorney-In-Fact
01/05/2009

**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).
- Common Stock in the form of Units granted under the Ventas Nonemployee Director Deferred Stock Compensation Plan (the "Plan") in (1) lieu of Director fees pursuant to the Director's deferral election. Such Units are payable solely in Common Stock and subject to the terms and conditions of the Director's deferral election and the Plan.
- (2) Restricted Stock granted by Issuer pursuant to the Ventas, Inc. 2006 Stock Plan for Directors (the "Stock Plan"). This Restricted Stock vests in two equal annual installments beginning on the first anniversary of the date of the grant.
- (3) Stock Options granted by Issuer pursuant to the Stock Plan.
- (4) These options vest in two equal annual installments beginning on the date of grant.

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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