

VENTAS INC  
Form 4  
January 23, 2009

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**LEWIS RAYMOND J**

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
  
111 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE,  
SUITE 4800  
  
(Street)

CHICAGO, IL 60606

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**VENTAS INC [VTR]**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**01/21/2009**

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
**EVP & Chief Investment Officer**

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount or (D) Price		
Common Stock	01/21/2009		A		25,810 (1)	A	\$ 0 119,550 D
Common Stock	01/21/2009		F		2,575 (2)	D	\$ 28.96 116,975 D
Common Stock	01/22/2009		F		2,293 (3)	D	\$ 28.11 114,682 D

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

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

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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 28.96	01/21/2009		A	52,172 <sup>(4)</sup>	01/21/2009 <sup>(5)</sup> 01/21/2019	Common Stock 52,172

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
LEWIS RAYMOND J 111 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE, SUITE 4800 CHICAGO, IL 60606			EVP & Chief Investment Officer	

## Signatures

Raymond J. Lewis, By: T. Richard Riney,  
Attorney-In-Fact 01/23/2009

\_\_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).
- (1) Restricted stock granted by Issuer pursuant to the Ventas, Inc. 2006 Incentive Plan (the "Plan"). These shares vest in three equal annual installments beginning on the date of grant.
- (2) Represents shares withheld to pay the taxes on the vesting of restricted stock granted on January 21, 2009 under the Plan.
- (3) Represents shares withheld to pay the taxes on the vesting of restricted stock granted on January 22, 2008 under the Plan.
- (4) Stock options granted by Issuer pursuant to the Plan.
- (5) These options vest in three equal annual installments beginning on the date of grant.
- (6) Represents total number of unexercised stock options held by the Reporting Person as of January 22, 2009.

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.