

Morris James Richard  
 Form 4  
 February 21, 2012

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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**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 \*  
 Morris James Richard

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES INC [AVB]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)  
 Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 Senior Vice President

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 C/O AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES, INC., BALLSTON TOWER, 671 N. GLEBE ROAD

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 02/16/2012

(Street)  
 ARLINGTON, VA 22203

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

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share	02/16/2012		A		1,197	A	\$ 0 (1)
					36,639.9822	D	(2)

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

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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)	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 132.95	02/16/2012		A	2,758	02/16/2013 <sup>(3)</sup> 02/16/2022	Common Stock	2,758

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Morris James Richard C/O AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES, INC. BALLSTON TOWER, 671 N. GLEBE ROAD ARLINGTON, VA 22203			Senior Vice President	

## Signatures

Catherine T. White, as attorney-in-fact under Power of Attorney dated January 26, 2009 02/21/2012

\_\_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) Reflects grant of shares of restricted stock under the Company's Stock Option and Incentive Plan, which shares are subject to vesting requirements.
- (2) The amount of securities owned following the reported transaction reflects direct ownership of all shares of common stock, including restricted shares.
- (3) These options vest in three annual installments, with the first installment vesting on 2/16/2013.
- (4) Reflects grant of options under the Company's Stock Option and Incentive Plan.
- (5)

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Following the reported transaction, the reporting person holds a total of 21,372 options to purchase the issuer's common stock granted on various dates and with varying exercise prices and vesting dates.

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.