

Piton Julie A
 Form 4
 February 19, 2010

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 *
 Piton Julie A

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 6217 CENTRE PARK DRIVE
 (Street)

WEST CHESTER, OH 45069

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 AtriCure, Inc. [ATRC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 02/17/2010

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)
 VP Fin & Admin & CFO

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) Price | | | |
| | | | Code V | Amount (D) | Price (1) | | |
| Common Stock | 02/17/2010 | | A | 12,000 A | \$ 0 (1) | 103,155 (2) | D |

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

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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. 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 |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 5.5975 | 02/17/2010 | | A | 45,000 | 02/17/2011 ⁽³⁾ 02/17/2020 | Common Stock | 45,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|----------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Piton Julie A 6217 CENTRE PARK DRIVE WEST CHESTER, OH 45069 | | | VP Fin & Admin & CFO | |

Signatures

/s/ Julie A. Piton 02/19/2010

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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) The Reporting Person acquired these shares pursuant to a Restricted Stock Award under the AtriCure, Inc. 2005 Equity Incentive Plan. The shares will vest 25% annually over four years from date of grant.
- (2) This figure includes 1,385 shares acquired pursuant to the AtriCure, Inc. 2008 Employee Stock Purchase Plan for the period ending December 31, 2009.
- (3) The option vests and is exercisable as to 25% of the shares one year from the date of grant and the remaining 75% thereafter vests and is exercisable in equal monthly installments on the same day of the month over the following three years.

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.