AtriCure, Inc. Form 4 May 20, 2010

FORM 4

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

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

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

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).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * JOHNSTON RICHARD M

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

AtriCure, Inc. [ATRC] (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

X_ Director 10% Owner

(Check all applicable)

(Month/Day/Year) 500 EAST PRATT STREET, SUITE

05/19/2010

Officer (give title Other (specify below)

1200

(Street)

(First)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

(Instr. 8)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

BATIMORE, MD 21202

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Execution Date, if Code Disposed of (D)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (I) Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

(A) or

Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

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

(Month/Day/Year)

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)

1. Title of Derivative Conversion Security or Exercise

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if any

4. 5. Number of **Transaction**Derivative Code Securities

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

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(Instr. 3) Price of Derivative Security

(Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Acquired (A)

or Disposed of (D)

(Instr. 3, 4, and 5)

Code V (A)

(D) Date Exercisable Expiration Date

Title

Amount or Number

of Share

Stock

Option (right to buy)

\$ 5.15 05/19/2010 10,000

05/19/2011(1) 05/19/2020

Common

10,000 Stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

JOHNSTON RICHARD M 500 EAST PRATT STREET **SUITE 1200** BATIMORE, MD 21202

X

Signatures

/s/ Julie A. Piton For: Richard M. **Johnston**

05/20/2010

**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).
- Exercisable cumulatively at a rate of 33.33% per annum commencing on the earlier of (i) the anniversary of the date of grant and (ii) the (1) date on which the Company's annual meeting of stockholders is held that year, provided the Reporting Person is a director immediately prior to such annual meeting.
- (2) Not applicable

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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