

AMERICAN RETIREMENT CORP
 Form 4
 September 26, 2005

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 RICHARDSON BRYAN D

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 AMERICAN RETIREMENT CORP
 [ACR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

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

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)

Exec. Vice Pres. and CFO

111 WESTWOOD PLACE, SUITE 200

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

BRENTWOOD, TN 37027

(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 (D) Price | | |
| Common Stock | 09/22/2005 | | A | | 18,000 (1) \$ 0 53,300 (2) | 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 number.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

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) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|

| Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------|----------------------------------------|
|---------------------|--------------------|-------|----------------------------------------|

Code V (A) (D)

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| RICHARDSON BRYAN D 111 WESTWOOD PLACE, SUITE 200 BRENTWOOD, TN 37027 | | | Exec. Vice Pres. and CFO | |

Signatures

/s/ Bryan D
Richardson 09/26/2005

**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) Shares of performance-based restricted stock that vest in three installments on March 31, 2006, March 31, 2007 and March 31, 2008, subject to the issuer achieving certain performance targets.
 - (2) Includes 700 shares of Common Stock acquired under the issuer's Associate Stock Purchase Plan in June 2005.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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