Lehmann William JR Form 4 December 24, 2009

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

OMB Washington, D.C. 20549

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Last)

(City)

1.Title of

Security

(Instr. 3)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Lehmann William JR

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Symbol

(Middle)

(Zip)

ATHERSYS, INC / NEW [ATHX]

(Check all applicable)

(First)

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 12/23/2009

Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title

below) President & COO

Other (specify

OMB APPROVAL

Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

3201 CARNEGIE AVENUE

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person

Form filed by More than One Reporting

(I)

(Instr. 4)

Person

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

Owned

CLEVELAND, OH 44115

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

3. 4. Securities Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially

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

Ownership

(Instr. 4)

(Month/Day/Year)

Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

Following Reported Transaction(s)

(Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

(A)

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

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 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed 5. Number of 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and Amount of Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if **Transaction**Derivative **Expiration Date** Underlying Securities Security or Exercise any Code Securities (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3 and 4)

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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3	8)	Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)					
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amoun or Numbe of Shar
Employee nonqualified stock option (right to purchase)	\$ 5.28	12/23/2009		A		3,561		<u>(1)</u>	12/23/2019	Common Stock	3,561
Employee incentive stock option (right to purchase)	\$ 5.28	12/23/2009		A		18,939		<u>(1)</u>	12/23/2019	Common Stock	18,93

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				

Lehmann William JR 3201 CARNEGIE AVENUE CLEVELAND, OH 44115

President & COO

Signatures

/s/ Laura K. Campbell, as attorney-in-fact for William Lehmann, Jr.

12/24/2009

**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) The option vests 25% in each of the four quarters in year 1.

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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