

LUSTIG MATTHEW J  
 Form 3  
 May 16, 2011

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * Â LUSTIG MATTHEW J (Last) (First) (Middle)  30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA (Street)  NEW YORK, Â NY Â 10020 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 05/13/2011	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol VENTAS INC [VTR]	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (give title below) (specify below)	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
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**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	24,854,060 <u>(1)</u> <u>(2)</u> <u>(3)</u>	I	See Footnote (1) (2) (3)

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable      Expiration Date	Title      Amount or Number of			

Shares (I)  
(Instr. 5)

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
LUSTIG MATTHEW J 30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA NEW YORK, NY 10020	X	^	^	^

## Signatures

Matthew J. Lustig, By: T. Richard Riney,  
Attorney-In-Fact

05/16/2011

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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) Prometheus Senior Quarters LLC ("Prometheus"), a Delaware limited liability company, Lazard Senior Housing Partners LP ("LSHP"), a Delaware limited partnership, and LSHP Coinvestment Partnership I LP ("LSHP Coinvest"), a Delaware limited partnership, collectively, may be deemed to beneficially own 24,854,060 shares of Issuer's common stock. The Managing Members of Prometheus are LFSRI II-CADIM Alternative Partnership L.P., LF Strategic Realty Investors II L.P. and LFSRI II Alternative Partnership L.P., each a Delaware limited partnership, and Lazard Freres Real Estate Investors L.L.C. ("LFREI"), a New York limited liability company, is the general partner of each such limited partnership. Lazard Senior Housing Partners GP LLC ("LSHP GP"), a Delaware limited liability company, is the general partner of LSHP. LSHP Coinvestment I GP LLC ("LSHP Coinvest GP"), a Delaware limited liability company, is the general partner of LSHP Coinvest.

[Continued from previous] Lazard Alternative Investments LLC ("LAI"), a Delaware limited liability company, is the managing member of each of LFREI, LSHP GP and LSHP Coinvest GP. In his capacity as Managing Director of LAI, Managing Principal of LFREI and (2) Managing Principal and Chief Executive Officer of each of LSHP GP and LSHP Coinvest GP, Mr. Lustig may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the shares of Issuer's common stock reported herein. Mr. Lustig expressly disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares of Issuer's common stock reported herein, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein, if any.

(3) On May 13, 2011, Matthew J. Lustig was appointed to the board of directors of the Issuer.

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.