McLaughlin William M Form 4 February 21, 2012

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

OMB 3235-0287 Number: January 31,

Expires: 2005 Estimated average

10% Owner

burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

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

See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * McLaughlin William M

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Issuer

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES

(Check all applicable)

Executive Vice President

INC [AVB]

02/16/2012

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

X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)

C/O AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES.

INC., BALLSTON TOWER, 671 N.

(Street)

(State)

GLEBE ROAD

(City)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

Director

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

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

ARLINGTON, VA 22203

1.Title of Security	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	
(Instr. 3)	(c, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,	any (Month/Day/Year)

(Zip)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

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

Common

Stock, par 02/16/2012 value \$.01

Price Code V Amount (D)

3,730

A

(A)

or

(1)

\$0 63,643.6259 (2)

Common

per share

Stock, par value \$.01 per share

Held in trust for $800^{(3)}$ I minor

D

children

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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)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number op Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4,	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	and 5) (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amoun or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 132.95	02/16/2012		A	8,593	02/16/2013(4)	02/16/2022	Common Stock	8,593

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

McLaughlin William M C/O AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES, INC. BALLSTON TOWER, 671 N. GLEBE ROAD ARLINGTON, VA 22203

Executive Vice President

Signatures

Catherine T. White, as attorney-in-fact under Power of Attorney dated February 22, 2010.

02/21/2012

**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) Reflects grant of shares of restricted stock under the Company's Stock Option and Incentive Plan, which shares are subject to vesting requirements.
- (2) The amount of securities owned following the reported transaction reflects direct ownership of all shares of common stock, including restricted shares.

Reporting Owners 2

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- (3) No transaction is reported. The amount of securities owned indirectly following the reported transaction is included for information purposes only.
- (4) These options vest in three annual installments, with the first installment vesting on 2/16/2013.
- (5) Reflects grant of options under the Company's Stock Option and Incentive Plan.
- (6) Following the reported transaction, the reporting person holds a total of 84,366 options to purchase the issuer's common stock granted on various dates and with varying exercise prices and vesting dates.

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.