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FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| 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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: 3235-0287 | | | | | | | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | | | | | | |
| hours per response: | 0.5 | | | | | | | | |

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person [*] ELLISON RUSSELL H | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol VENTRUS BIOSCIENCES INC [VTUS] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | | |
|---|----------|----------|---|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| ELLISON R | USSELL H | | | X | Director | 10% Owner | | | |
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) | - x | Officer (give title below) | Other (specify below) | | | |
| 99 HUDSON S | TREET | | 05/21/2014 | | Chief Executiv | ve Officer | | | |
| 5TH FLOOR | | | | | | | | | |
| (Street) | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Indi Line) | vidual or Joint/Group Fili | ng (Check Applicable | | | |
| NEW YORK | NY | US 10013 | | X | Form filed by One Re | porting Person | | | |
| | | | _ | | Form filed by More the Person | an One Reporting | | | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zin) | | 1 | | | | | |

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) | Transaction Code (Instr. | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------|---|--|---------------|-------------|---|---|---|
| | | | | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | (11341 4) |
| Common Stock | 05/21/2014 | | Р | | 10,000 | A | \$0.8698(1) | 25,000 | D | |

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) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transa Code (8) | | of E | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|------|-----|--|--------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |
| Stock Options (right to buy) | \$3.81 | | | | | | | (2) | 01/15/2024 | Common Stock | 395,500 | | 395,500 | D | |
| Restricted Stock Units | (3) | | | | | | | (4) | 06/30/2016 | Common Stock | 200,000 | | 150,000 | D | |
| Phantom Stock | (5)(6) | | | | | | | (7) | (7) | Common Stock | 50,000 | | 50,000 | D | |
| Stock Options (right to buy) | \$8.1 | | | | | | | (8) | 01/15/2022 | Common Stock | 60,000 | | 60,000 | D | |
| Stock Options (right to buy) | \$6 | | | | | | | (9) | 12/22/2020 | Common Stock | 573,599 | | 573,599 | D | |
| Warrants (right to buy) | \$7.69 | | | | | | | (10) | 11/08/2014 | Common Stock | 8,065 | | 8,065 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$.8697 to \$.87. The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request to the SEC staff, the Issuer or a security holder full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the trades were effected.

2. The options vest 1/3 on 1/15/2015, and the remaining 2/3 will vest in equal installments on the second and third anniversaries after 1/15/2014.

3. Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of the Issuer's common stock.

4. The restricted stock units vest in four equal amounts (25% each) as follows: 25% on the date of grant and 25% when the 20 trading day volume weighted average price of the Issuer's common stock equals or exceeds \$4.15, \$5.15 and \$6.15. The unvested restricted stock units expire on June 30, 2016 if a vesting threshold has not been met by that date.

5. Upon the immediate vesting on April 5, 2013 of 50,000 restricted stock units granted to the reporting person on April 5, 2013, the reporting person elected to defer the receipt of those 50,000 shares of common stock, resulting in the accrual to his phantom stock account of 50,000 shares of phantom stock.

6. Each share of phantom stock represents the right to receive one share of the Issuer's common stock.

7. The phantom stock becomes payable on the earliest to occur of (a) termination of employment, (b) a change in control of the Issuer, or (c) April 1, 2015.

8. The options vested 1/3 on 1/15/2013, and the remaining 2/3 will vest in equal installments on the second and third anniversaries after 1/15/2013.

9. The options vest 1/3 on 12/22/2010, and the remaining 2/3 will vest in equal installments on the second and third anniversaries after 12/22/2010.

10. The warrant vested in three installments on 3/21/08 (2,689 shares), 3/21/2009 (2,688 shares) and 3/21/2010 (2,688 shares).

<u>/s/ Alexander M. Donaldson, by</u> <u>05/22/2014</u> <u>Power of Attorney</u>

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

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

 * 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).

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

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 Number.