CENTENE CORP Form 4 April 04, 2005

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

OMB APPROVAL OMB

3235-0287 Number:

Expires:

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

January 31, 2005

Estimated average burden hours per

response... 0.5

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

1(b).

DITMORE ROBERT K (Last) (First) (Middle) 7711 CARONDELET AVENUE, SUITE 800 (Street)				Symbol CENTI	ENE CO	RF	P [CNC]	ruarre		Issuer					
				3. Date of Earliest Transaction						(Check all applicable)					
					Day/Year)	11a	msaction			X Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)					
				4. If Am	endment, I	Date	e Original			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check					
ST. LOUIS, MO 63105				Filed(Month/Day/Year)						Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
	(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tab	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned										
	1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Da (Month/Day/Year 03/31/2005		n Date, if	3. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	ion: (Amount 437.396	of (D	Price	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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)			
	Stock Common Stock					2			29.95	6,800	I	By spouse (3)			
	Common Stock									5,600	I	See Footnote			
	Common Stock									59,200	I	See Footnote			

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

	1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	isable and	7. Titl	e and	8. Price of	9
	Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction	orNumber	Expiration Date		Amount of		Derivative	J
	Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	onth/Day/Year)	Underlying	lying	Security	,
	(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative			Securities	(Instr. 5)]	
		Derivative			Securities		(In			3 and 4)		(
		Security				Acquired]
						(A) or						J
						Disposed						-
						of (D)						(
						(Instr. 3,						
						4, and 5)						
										Amount		
							Date Exercisable	Expiration e Date	Title !	or		
										Number		
					G 1 17	(A) (B)				of		
					Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

DITMORE ROBERT K 7711 CARONDELET AVENUE SUITE 800 ST. LOUIS, MO 63105

X

Signatures

/s/ Robert K.

Ditmore 04/04/2005

**Signature of
Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

Date

- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations, See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- Owned by the Ditmore 2002 Charitable Remainder Trust, of which Mr. Ditmore is a co-trustee. Mr. Ditmore disclaims beneficial (1) ownership except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein, and the inclusion of these shares in this report shall not be deemed an admission of beneficial ownership of all of the reported shares for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.
- Owned by the Ditmore Family Management Company LLC, of which Mr. Ditmore is a chief manager. Mr. Ditmore disclaims beneficial (2) ownership except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein, and the inclusion of these shares in this report shall not be deemed an admission of beneficial ownership of all of the reported shares for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

(3)

Reporting Owners 2

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Shares owned by spouse who shares Mr. Ditmore's household. Mr. Ditmore disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares held by his spouse, and the inclusion of these shares in this report shall not be deemed an admission of beneficial ownership of all of the reported shares for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

(4) Shares represent restricted stock units reserved in lieu of cash payment of fees under the Company's Non-employee Directors Deferred Stock Compensation Plan

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.