

Szilagyi Gary
 Form 4
 December 22, 2009

FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL
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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 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 *
 Szilagyi Gary

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS INC [ATHR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)
 Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 Vice President Sales

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 5480 GREAT AMERICA PARKWAY

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/22/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

SANTA CLARA,, CA 95054

(City) (State) (Zip)

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) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price |
| Common Stock | 12/22/2009 | | M | | 47,000 | A | \$ 14.38 |
| Common Stock | 12/22/2009 | | S ⁽¹⁾ | | 47,000 | D | \$ 34 |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 17,652 |

See Footnote (2)

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

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(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) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Employee Stock Options (right to buy) | \$ 14.38 | 12/22/2009 | | M | 47,000 | <u>(3)</u> 01/18/2016 | Common Stock | 47,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|----------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Szilagyi Gary C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. 5480 GREAT AMERICA PARKWAY SANTA CLARA,, CA 95054 | | | Vice President Sales | |

Signatures

Bruce P. Johnson,
Attorney-in-fact

12/22/2009

__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 sales reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan.
- (2) By the Szilagyi Family Revocable Trust
- (3) 25% of the options became exercisable on 1/18/2007, and the remaining options become exercisable in 36 equal monthly installments commencing on 2/18/2007.

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

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