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VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS INC Form 4 December 21, 2015 OMB APPROVAL FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB 3235-0287 Washington, D.C. 20549 Number: Check this box January 31, Expires: if no longer 2005 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to Estimated average **SECURITIES** Section 16. burden hours per Form 4 or response... 0.5 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 1(b). (Print or Type Responses) 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Stratton John G Issuer Symbol VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS (Check all applicable) INC [VZ] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner X_Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS 12/17/2015 EVP & President of Operations INC., 1095 AVENUE OF THE **AMERICAS** (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting NEW YORK, NY 10036 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 3. 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Indirect Beneficial anv (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned (I) Ownership Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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 Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

 (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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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, in any (Month/Day/Year	Code	TransactionSecurities Acquired (A) Code or Disposed of (D)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amou Underlying Secur (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Am or Nui of Sha
Phantom Stock (unitized)	<u>(1)</u>	12/17/2015		Ι		30,403.893 (2)	(1)	(1)	Common Stock	8,
Phantom Stock (unitized)	<u>(3)</u>	12/17/2015		А	108.72		(3)	(3)	Common Stock	
Reporting Owners										
Repor	Reporting Owner Name / Address Director			Relationships 0% Owner Officer			Other			
Stratton John G VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS INC. 1095 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS NEW YORK, NY 10036				EVP & President of Operations						
Signat	ures									
William L. Horton, Jr., Attorney-in-fact for John G Stratton			for John G.	12/21/2015						
	<u>**</u> Signatu	are of Reporting Person			Date					
Explar	nation	of Respor	ises:							

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* 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).

Each share of phantom stock is the economic equivalent of a portion of one share of common stock and is settled in cash. The shares of (1) phantom stock become payable upon events established by the reporting person in accordance with the deferred compensation plan. The reporting person had the right to transfer the value of these shares into an alternative investment under the deferred compensation plan.

- (2) The disposition of shares set forth here is made pursuant to Mr. Stratton's plan under Rule 10b5-1(c).
- (3) Each share of phantom stock is the economic equivalent of a portion of one share of common stock and is settled in cash. The shares of phantom stock become payable upon events established by the reporting person in accordance with the deferred compensation plan.
- (4) Includes phantom stock acquired through dividend reinvestment.

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.