

Stratton John G
Form 3
January 10, 2012

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104
Expires: January 31, 2005
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * | | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol | |
| Â Stratton John G | | (Month/Day/Year) | VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS INC [VZ] | |
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 01/01/2012 | |
| VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS INC., Â 140 WEST STREET, 29TH FLOOR | | | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer | |
| (Street) | | | (Check all applicable) | |
| NEW YORK, Â NY Â 10007 | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (give title below) (specify below) EVP & Pres. - VZ Enterprise | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) | |
| | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Common Stock | 46 | I | By 401(k) |

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security | 4. Conversion or Exercise | 5. Ownership Form of | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|----------------------|---|
|--|--|--|---------------------------|----------------------|---|

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| | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | (Instr. 4) Title | Amount or Number of Shares | Price of Derivative Security | Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Phantom Stock (unitized) | Â (1) | Â (1) | Common Stock | 73,586 | \$ (1) | I | By Deferred Compensation Plan |
| Restricted Stock Units - 2009 - 11 Award Cycle | Â (2) | Â (2) | Common Stock | 33,259 | \$ (2) | D | Â |
| Restricted Stock Units - 2010 - 12 Award Cycle | Â (3) | Â (3) | Common Stock | 37,113 | \$ (3) | D | Â |
| Restricted Stock Units - 2011 - 13 Award Cycle | Â (4) | Â (4) | Common Stock | 34,333 | \$ (4) | D | Â |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------------------------------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Stratton John G VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS INC. 140 WEST STREET, 29TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10007 | Â | Â | Â | EVP & Pres. - VZ Enterprise Â |

Signatures

William L. Horton, Jr. attorney-in-fact for John G.
Stratton

01/10/2012

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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) 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. The number of shares is based upon 257,079.815 units held as of January 1, 2012.

(2) Each Restricted Stock Unit (RSU) represents the right to receive a cash payment equal to the value of one share of common stock, plus accrued dividends, upon vesting. Subject to the terms of the Restricted Stock Unit Agreement, each RSU vested on December 31, 2011, and the cash payment will be based on the closing stock price on the last trading day in December 2011.

(3) Each Restricted Stock Unit (RSU) represents the right to receive one share of common stock, plus accrued dividends in the form of stock, upon vesting. Subject to the terms of the Restricted Stock Unit Agreement, each RSU will vest on December 31, 2012.

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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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