

Torre David D  
 Form 4  
 February 03, 2010

**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 \*  
 Torre David D

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 02/02/2010

\_\_\_\_ Director  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 VP & Chief Accounting Officer

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

(Street)

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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	02/02/2010		M	33,750 A \$ 1.72	65,808	D	
Common Stock	02/02/2010		M	30,000 A \$ 9.333	95,808	D	
Common Stock	02/02/2010		M	24,000 A \$ 14.38	119,808	D	
Common Stock	02/02/2010		S <sup>(1)</sup>	88,222 D \$ 33.359	31,586	D	
					<u>(2)</u>		

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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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 1.72	02/02/2010		M	33,750	03/12/2002 <sup>(3)</sup> 03/12/2012	Common Stock	33,750
Employee Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 9.333	02/02/2010		M	30,000	<sup>(4)</sup> 01/13/2014	Common Stock	30,000
Employee Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 14.38	02/02/2010		M	24,000	<sup>(5)</sup> 01/18/2011	Common Stock	24,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Torre David D C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. 5480 GREAT AMERICA PARKWAY SANTA CLARA, CA 95054			VP & Chief Accounting Officer	

## Signatures

Bruce P. Johnson,  
Attorney-in-fact

02/03/2010

\_\_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.  
Represents the weighted average sales price for a number of sale transactions effected at prices ranging from \$32.89 to \$33.68. The
  - (2) Reporting Person has provided to the issuer, and undertakes to provide upon request by the SEC staff, or any security holder of the issuer, information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range.  
All of the options became exercisable on 3/13/2002. The shares underlying the options were subject to the issuer's right of repurchase that
  - (3) lapsed as to 2,813 of the shares on 2/18/2005, and lapsed as to the remaining shares in 11 equal monthly installments beginning on 3/18/2005.
  - (4) 20% of the options become exercisable on 1/14/2005; and the remaining options became exercisable in 48 monthly installments beginning on 2/14/2005.
  - (5) The options became exercisable in 48 equal monthly installments commencing on 2/18/2006.

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.