

ATSINGER EDWARD G III  
 Form 4  
 September 30, 2011

**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 \*  
 ATSINGER EDWARD G III

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 SALEM COMMUNICATIONS CORP /DE/ [SALM]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 4880 SANTA ROSA ROAD  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 09/28/2011

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 Chief Executive Officer

CAMARILLO, CA 93012  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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

**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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Code V Amount (D) Price   |  |   |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

SEC 1474 (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 | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of Derivative Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|

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| (Instr. 3)                           | Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8)<br>Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4, and<br>5) | Code | V | (A)     | (D) | Date Exercisable          | Expiration Date           | Title                      | Am<br>Nun<br>Sha |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|---|------|---|---------|-----|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Stock<br>Option<br>(right to<br>buy) | \$ 2.38                            | 09/28/2011       | A   |      |   | 120,000 |     | 09/28/2012 <sup>(1)</sup> | 09/28/2020 <sup>(2)</sup> | Class A<br>Common<br>Stock | 12               |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                       | Relationships |           |                         |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                 | Other |
| ATSINGER EDWARD G III<br>4880 SANTA ROSA ROAD<br>CAMARILLO, CA 93012 | X             | X         | Chief Executive Officer |       |

## Signatures

/s/Christopher J. Henderson Attorney in fact for Edward G. Atsinger III, pursuant to a continuing power of attorney

09/30/2011

\_\_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 option vests annually in four (4) equal installments, commencing September 28, 2012.
- (2) Each annual installment of the option expires on the fifth (5th) anniversary of the vesting date. The last installment to vest will expire on September 28, 2020.

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.