

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

## FORM 4

Statement of changes in beneficial ownership of securities

Filing Date: **2005-05-02** | Period of Report: **2005-04-28**  
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### ISSUER

#### **CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS CO**

CIK: **20520** | IRS No.: **060619596** | State of Incorporation: **DE** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**  
SIC: **4813** Telephone communications (no radiotelephone)

Mailing Address  
*THREE HIGH RIDGE PARK  
STAMFORD CT 06905*

Business Address  
*HIGH RIDGE PK BLDG 3  
STAMFORD CT 06905  
2036145600*

### REPORTING OWNER

#### **STANGER ROBERT A**

CIK: **1179215**  
Type: **4** | Act: **34** | File No.: **001-11001** | Film No.: **05789750**

Mailing Address  
*C/O CITIZENS  
COMMUNICATIONS CO  
3 HIGH RIDGE PARK  
STAMFORD CT 06905*

Business Address  
*2036145600*

# FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

### OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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 hours per response 0.5

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

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <b>STANGER ROBERT A</b>			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS CO</b> <b>[CZN]</b>			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <b>04/28/2005</b>			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		
3 HIGH RIDGE PARK  (Street) <b>STAMFORD, CT 06905</b>			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)					
(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	04/28/2005		M		21,232	A	\$ 0	42,796	D	
Common Stock	04/28/2005		D		21,232	D	\$12.75	21,564	D	

**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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					
Phantom Stock Units	(1)	04/28/2005		M			21,232	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	\$ 0	0	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

- The Phantom Stock Units convert one for one share of common stock, or cash equivalent, upon the Reporting Person's retirement.
- The Phantom Stock Units convert one for one share of common stock, or cash equivalent, upon the Reporting Person's death or retirement. Reporting Person died on 04/18/2005; payment of Phantom Stock Units calculated on 04/28/2005.

## Signatures

By: By L. Russell Mitten Under Power-of-Attorney

05/02/2005

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

\* 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).

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

**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 Number.**