FORM 4

### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPRO |
|-----------|
|-----------|

| OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Estimated average burden |           |
| hours per response:      | 0.5       |

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| Name and Address of Reporting Person*     SARGEANT THOMAS J                             |         |          | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES INC [ AVB ] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director 10% Owner |                            |                       |  |  |  |
|---|---------|----------|---|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| (Last)  | (First) | (Middle) |   | X   | Officer (give title below) | Other (specify below) |  |  |  |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES, INC. 2900 EISENHOWER AVE., SUITE 300 |         | INC.     | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/29/2003                   | EVP, CFO and Treasurer  |                            |                       |  |  |  |
| (Street) ALEXANDRIA VA 22314  |         | 22314    | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                      | Form filed by One Reporting Person     Form filed by More than One Reporting Person         |                            |                       |  |  |  |
| (City)  | (State) | (Zip)    |   |   |                            |                       |  |  |  |

### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)         | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transac<br>Code (I<br>8) |   |        |               |       | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially Owned<br>Following Reported | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct (D)<br>or Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | Beneficial<br>Ownership                   |  |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------|---|--------|---------------|-------|--|---|---|--|
|   |  |   | Code                           | v | Amount | (A) or<br>(D) | Price | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)                                     |   | (Instr. 4)                                |  |
| Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share | 09/29/2003                                 |   | M                              |   | 10,000 | A             | \$32  | 82,178(1)  | D   |   |  |
| Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share |  |   |                                |   |        |               |       | 1,352(2)   | I   | Owned by<br>Spouse                        |  |
| Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share |  |   |                                |   |        |               |       | 1,382(2)   | I   | Held in<br>trust for<br>minor<br>children |  |

# Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transac<br>Code (Ir<br>8) |   | Derivative |        | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                    | 7. Title and Amount of<br>Securities Underlying<br>Derivative Security (Instr.<br>3 and 4) |                                     | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|--|---|--|---|---------------------------------|---|------------|--------|--|--------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
|  |   |  |   | Code                            | v | (A)        | (D)    | Date<br>Exercisable  | Expiration<br>Date | Title  | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of Shares |   | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4)   |  |  |
| Options to<br>Purchase<br>Common Stock           | \$32  | 09/29/2003                                 |   | М                               |   |            | 10,000 | 02/17/2000 <sup>(3)</sup>                                      | 02/17/2009         | Common<br>Stock  | 10,000                              | \$0 <sup>(3)</sup>                                  | 314,250 <sup>(4)</sup>   | D  |  |

### Explanation of Responses:

- 1. The amount of securities owned following the reported transaction reflects direct ownership of all shares of common stock, including restricted shares.
- 2. No transaction is reported. Indirect holdings reported for information only.
- 3. The options exercised were included in options granted on February 17, 1999 which became exercisable in three equal annual installments beginning on February 17, 2000.
- 4. The number of derivative securities beneficially owned following the reported transaction includes options granted in prior periods with varying exercise prices and vesting dates. Following the reported transaction the reporting person continues to hold 27,200 options that expire on February 17, 2009 with an exercise price of \$32.00.

### Remarks:

Edward M. Schulman as attorneyin-fact under power of attorney dated January 1, 2000

09/30/2003

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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.