

OMB APPROVAL	
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**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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>BERG LAURENCE MARTIN</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>9 W. 57TH STREET, 43RD FLOOR</u>  (Street) <u>NEW YORK</u> <u>10019</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>RENT A CENTER INC DE [ RCI ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner  Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>01/02/2006</u>	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

**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			

**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: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					
Director Stock Option (Right to Purchase)	\$18.7	01/02/2006		A		5,000 <sup>(1)</sup>		01/02/2006	01/02/2016	Common	5,000	\$0	5,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	D

**Explanation of Responses:**

- On January 2, 2006, the reporting person was granted 5,000 options to purchase the Company's common stock, par value \$.01 per share, on a one-for-one basis, pursuant to the Company's Amended and Restated Long-Term Incentive Plan. The options expire 10 years from the date of grant and are immediately available for exercise.
- Represents the total number of options granted to the reporting person pursuant to this grant. The reporting person has an additional 72,500 options to purchase the Company's common stock (as adjusted to reflect a 5-for-2 stock split effected by the Company on August 29, 2003) pursuant to options previously granted to the reporting person on January 4, 1999, January 3, 2000, January 2, 2001, January 2, 2002, January 2, 2003, January 2, 2004, and January 3, 2005. All of these options are currently exercisable.

**Remarks:**

Laurence M. Berg 01/03/2006  
 \*\* 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.