

CENTURYTEL INC  
Form 4  
September 12, 2005

**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 \*  
**BOULET VIRGINIA**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**CENTURYTEL INC [CTL]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
426 STATE STREET  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
09/09/2005

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

NEW ORLEANS, LA 70118

(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 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	09/09/2005		M		4,000	A	\$ 29.06	10,862	D	
Common Stock	09/09/2005		M		6,000	A	\$ 29.7	16,862	D	
Common Stock	09/09/2005		S		10,000	D	\$ 35.63	6,862	D	
Common Stock	09/09/2005		S		450	D	\$ 35.83	0	I	By Spouse
Common Stock								955	I	As Custodian For Child

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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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Amount or Number of Shares
Director Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 29.06	09/09/2005		M	4,000	05/10/2003 05/10/2012	Common Stock	4,000
Director Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 29.7	09/09/2005		M	6,000	05/07/2005 05/07/2014	Common Stock	6,000
Director Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 32.18					05/09/2004 05/09/2013	Common Stock	6,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BOULET VIRGINIA 426 STATE STREET NEW ORLEANS, LA 70118	X			

## Signatures

By: Kay C. Buchart,  
Attorney-In-Fact

09/12/2005

\_\_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).

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

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