

Vella Matthew  
 Form 3  
 September 11, 2012

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 \*

^ Vella Matthew  
 (Last) (First) (Middle)

500 NEWPORT CENTER DRIVE, ^ 7TH FLOOR

(Street)

NEWPORT BEACH, ^ CA ^ 92660

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement

(Month/Day/Year)  
 09/04/2012

3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 ACACIA RESEARCH CORP [ACTG]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

5. 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 Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)

Common Stock

2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)

142,671

3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)

D ^

4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**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.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)

3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

Title

4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security

5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D)

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

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Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Amount or Number of Shares	or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)
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## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Vella Matthew 500 NEWPORT CENTER DRIVE 7TH FLOOR NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660	^	^	^ President	^

## Signatures

Matthew Vella                      09/11/2012

                                Date  
\*\*Signature of  
Reporting Person

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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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