

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104

Estimated average burden

hours per response: 0.5

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>Kennedy Patricia J</u> <hr/> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>6217 CENTRE PARK DRIVE</u> <hr/> (Street) <u>WEST CHESTER OH 45069</u> <hr/> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) <u>10/01/2011</u>	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>AtriCure, Inc. [ATRC]</u> <hr/> 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>VP, GM, International</u>	5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) <hr/> 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
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Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
<u>Common Stock</u>	<u>12,954⁽¹⁾</u>	<u>D</u>	

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)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
<u>Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)</u>	<u>02/10/2010⁽²⁾</u>	<u>02/10/2019</u>	<u>Common Stock</u>	<u>6,250</u>	<u>1.5</u>	<u>D</u>	
<u>Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)</u>	<u>02/17/2011⁽²⁾</u>	<u>02/17/2020</u>	<u>Common Stock</u>	<u>22,000</u>	<u>5.6</u>	<u>D</u>	
<u>Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)</u>	<u>02/09/2012⁽²⁾</u>	<u>02/09/2021</u>	<u>Common Stock</u>	<u>11,000</u>	<u>11.2</u>	<u>D</u>	

Explanation of Responses:

1. Includes 12,000 shares of unvested restricted stock awarded under the AtriCure, Inc. 2005 Equity Incentive Plan.

2. The option vests and is exercisable as to 25% of the shares one year from the date of grant and the remaining 75% thereafter vests and is exercisable in equal monthly installments on the same day of the month over the following three years.

/s/ Julie A. Piton as Attorney-
in-Fact for Patricia J. Kennedy 10/07/2011

** 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 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.

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.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints Julie A. Piton and Sarah Luken, and each of them, his true and lawful attorney-in-fact to:

(1) Execute for and on behalf of the undersigned, in the undersigned's capacity as an officer, director or 10% holder of AtriCure, Inc. (the "Company"), a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), any and all Forms 3, 4 and 5 required to be filed by the undersigned in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act and the rules thereunder;

(2) Do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to complete and execute any such Form 3, 4 and 5 and timely file such form with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any stock exchange or similar authority; and

(3) Take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned, pursuant to this Power of Attorney, shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in her discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary, and proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact, or her substitute or substitutes, shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this Power of Attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that no such attorney-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, is hereby assuming, nor is the Company hereby assuming, any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Section 16 of the Exchange Act of 1934.

This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 3, 4 and 5 with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in securities issued by the Company, unless earlier revoked by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to the foregoing attorney-in-fact.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 4th day of October, 2011.

/s/ Patricia J. Kennedy

By: -----
Name: Patricia J. Kennedy