

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

July 13, 2012

Via E-mail

Mr. Richard A. Schweinhart Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Ventas, Inc. 353 N. Clark Street, Suite 3300 Chicago, IL 60654

Re: Ventas, Inc.

Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011

Filed February 22, 2012 File No. 001-10989

Dear Mr. Schweinhart:

We have completed our review of your filing. We remind you that our comments or changes to disclosure in response to our comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the company or the filing and the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States. We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable rules require.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel L. Gordon

Daniel L. Gordon Branch Chief