

DANIEL DONALD K  
 Form 5  
 February 10, 2010

**FORM 5**

**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).  
 Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

**ANNUAL 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* DANIEL DONALD K  
 (Last) (First) (Middle)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORP [NHC]

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  
 \_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 Senior V.P. & Controller

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (check applicable line)

100 VINE ST., SUITE 1200  
 (Street)

MURFREESBORO, TN 37130  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

\_\_\_X\_\_\_ 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)	(A) or (D)	Price	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
Shares of Common Stock	01/02/2010		G	200	D	\$ 0	215,713 <sup>(1)</sup>	I	Partnership
Shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock							141,073	I	Partnership

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

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

Table with 9 columns: 1. Title of Derivative Security, 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security, 3. Transaction Date, 3A. Deemed Execution Date, 4. Transaction Code, 5. Number of Derivative Securities, 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date, 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities, 8. Price of Derivative Security, 9. Amount or Number of Shares.

Reporting Owners

Table with columns: Reporting Owner Name / Address, Relationships (Director, 10% Owner, Officer, Other). Entry for DANIEL DONALD K, 100 VINE ST., SUITE 1200, MURFREESBORO, TN 37130, Senior V.P. & Controller.

Signatures

Donald K. Daniel 02/10/2010
\*\*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).
(1) 693 shares were acquired pursuant to Employee Stock Purchase Plan for Plan Year 2009, with 200 shares being gifted to adult children.
Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.