

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORP  
 Form 4  
 December 22, 2016

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2015  
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 \*  
**BURGESS ERNEST G III**

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**7097 FRANKLIN ROAD**  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**12/19/2016**

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

**MURFREESBORO, TN 37128**  
 (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 Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				(A) or (D)	Price			
				Code	V	Amount		
Shares of Common Stock	12/19/2016		S	2,746	D	\$ 77.27	0 <sup>(1)</sup>	D
Shares of Common Stock	12/19/2016		S	2,254	D	\$ 77.34	0 <sup>(1)</sup>	D
Shares of Common Stock	12/20/2016		S	1,506	D	\$ 78.0249	0 <sup>(1)</sup>	D
Shares of Common	12/21/2016		S	1,494	D	\$ 78.03	90,421 <sup>(2)</sup>	D

Stock

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

**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.**

SEC 1474  
(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. Pr Deri Secu (Inst	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Option to Purchase Common Stock	\$ 44.8					05/03/2012	05/02/2017	Common Stock	7,500
Option to Purchase Common Stock	\$ 47.75					05/08/2013	05/07/2018	Common Stock	7,500
Option to Purchase Common Stock	\$ 52.93					05/08/2014	05/07/2019	Common Stock	7,500
Option to Purchase Common Stock	\$ 61.25					05/07/2015	05/06/2020	Common Stock	7,500
Option to Purchase Common Stock	\$ 62.78					06/02/2016	06/01/2021	Common Stock	7,500

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BURGESS ERNEST G III 7097 FRANKLIN ROAD MURFREESBORO, TN 37128		X		

## Signatures

Ernest G. Burgess, III by Kristina Hulseley,  
P.O.A. 12/22/2016

\_\_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) Transaction totaled on the line below.
  - (2) Total number of common shares following reported transactions.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space 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.