

HEALTH CARE REIT INC /DE/  
Form 8-K  
March 31, 2011

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549  
FORM 8-K  
CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of  
The Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) March 29, 2011  
Health Care REIT, Inc.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**1-8923**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**34-1096634**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**4500 Dorr Street, Toledo, Ohio**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**43615**  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (419) 247-2800

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

Effective October 23, 2000, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) adopted new rules related to insider trading. One of these rules, Rule 10b5-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, provides an exemption to the insider trading rules in the form of an affirmative defense. Rule 10b5-1 recognizes the creation of formal programs under which executives and other insiders may sell the securities of publicly traded companies on a regular basis pursuant to written plans that are entered into at a time when the plan participants are not aware of material non-public information and that otherwise comply with the requirements of Rule 10b5-1.

On January 28, 2003, the Board of Directors of Health Care REIT, Inc. (the Company) adopted a resolution modifying its insider trading policy to allow insiders to sell securities of the Company pursuant to pre-arranged trading plans.

On March 29, 2011, George L. Chapman, Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President of the Company, entered into a new plan pursuant to which he instructed his broker to sell up to 21,168 shares of the Company's common stock, exercise options and sell up to 49,326 shares of the Company's common stock and exercise options and hold 1,433 shares of the Company's common stock during the period between April 1, 2011 and October 31, 2011. The number of shares to be sold under Mr. Chapman's plan ranges from 11,921 to 19,556 shares per month, not including any unsold shares that might be carried over from a previous month.

Reports of the details of actual sales under the plan will be filed by Mr. Chapman on Form 4 in accordance with SEC regulations.

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

HEALTH CARE REIT, INC.

By: /s/ GEORGE L. CHAPMAN  
George L. Chapman  
Its: Chairman, Chief Executive  
Officer and President

Dated: March 31, 2011