

Ussery Robert Michael
Form 5
January 21, 2005

FORM 5

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

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
Number: 3235-0362
Expires: January 31,
2005
Estimated average
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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Ussery Robert Michael

(Last) (First) (Middle)

2508 BELFAST COURT

(Street)

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

3. Statement of Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended
(Month/Day/Year)
12/31/2004

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

Senior V.P., Operations

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

MURFREESBORO, TN 37129

____X____ Form Filed by One Reporting Person
____ Form Filed by More than One Reporting
Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Amount or Price		
Shares of Common Stock owned by myself & spouse	01/21/2005	Â	J	574	A \$ 19.64	36,019	D Â
Shares of Common Stock in	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â Â Â	35	D Â

name of
child

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

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SEC 2270
(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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
					(A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option-"Right to Buy"	\$ 20.9	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	02/22/2009 03/23/2009	Common Stock 40,0

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Ussery Robert Michael 2508 BELFAST COURT MURFREESBORO, TN 37129	Â	Â	Â Senior V.P., Operations	Â

Signatures

R. Michael
Ussery 01/21/2005

**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).

Â

Remarks:

J: Â Rule Â 16b-3(c) Â acquisition Â for Â 2004 Â Plan Â Year, Â pursuant Â to Â the Â NHC Â Employee Â Stock Â Purchase Â

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