POWELL JULIA W

(Print or Type Responses)

name

Form 4

August 28, 2012

#### **OMB APPROVAL** FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB 3235-0287 Washington, D.C. 20549 Number: Check this box January 31, Expires: if no longer 2005 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to Estimated average **SECURITIES** Section 16. burden hours per Form 4 or 0.5 response... Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction 1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * POWELL JULIA W			2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORP [NHC]					5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  (Check all applicable)		
(Last) 3712 LASCA	(First) (Middle) SSAS PIKE		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/24/2012					Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below)		
(Street)  MURFREESBORO, TN 37130			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)				- -	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _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 E (Month/Day/Ye	ar) Execu any		Code (Instr. 8)	4. Secur or(A) or D (Instr. 3.	oispose , 4 and (A) or	d of (D)	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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock in my name and my spouse's name	08/24/2012			S	842	D	\$ 44.37	0 (1)	D	
Shares of Common Stock in my name and my spouse's	08/27/2012			S	4	D	\$ 44.58	120,164	D	

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Shares of Series A

Convertible 83,010 D

Preferred 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)

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

1. Title of 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed 5. 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and Amount of 8. Pr Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionNumber **Expiration Date Underlying Securities** Security or Exercise Code of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3 and 4) (Instr. 3) Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Derivative Derivative Securities Security Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) Amount Date

Expiration or Title Exercisable Date Number of Shares

Code V (A) (D)

Option to

purchase Common 02/21/2012 02/29/2016 \$ 46.69 36,000 Common Stock

Stock

## **Reporting Owners**

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Director 10% Owner Officer Other

POWELL JULIA W Sr. V.P., 3712 LASCASSAS PIKE Patient MURFREESBORO, TN 37130 Services

**Signatures** 

Julia W. Powell 08/27/2012

\*\*Signature of Date Reporting Person

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# **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) Totaled with the transaction on the line below.

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.