

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORP  
 Form 4  
 February 24, 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 \*  
 LASSITER DAVID L

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 9110 BRENTMEADE BLVD.  
 (Street)

BRENTWOOD, TN 37027

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
 02/22/2016

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)  
 Sr. V.P., Corporate Affairs

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)		
			Code	V	Amount (A) or (D) Price				
Shares of Common Stock	02/22/2016		M		2,141 (1)	A	\$ 46.69	0 (2)	D
Shares of Common Stock	02/22/2016		F		1,623 (3)	D	\$ 61.56	33,204	D

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. Amount or Number of Shares
Option to purchase Common Stock	\$ 46.69	02/22/2016		M	2,141	12/04/2012 02/29/2016	Common Stock	2,141

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
LASSITER DAVID L 9110 BRENTMEADE BLVD. BRENTWOOD, TN 37027			Sr. V.P., Corporate Affairs	

## Signatures

David L. Lassiter by Kristina Hulsey,  
P.O.A. 02/24/2016

\*\*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) These stock options were granted pursuant to the NHC 2010 Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan on March 1, 2011. The grant and exercise of these stock options are exempt from Section 16(b) pursuant to Rule 16b-3(d).
- (2) Transaction totaled on the line below
- (3) Previously owned shares tendered to company to pay the exercise price.

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.