

ACKERMAN JOEL  
Form 4  
January 12, 2009

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 \*  
ACKERMAN JOEL

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
KINDRED HEALTHCARE, INC  
[KND]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
255 WEST 88 STREET #9B  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
01/12/2009

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

NEW YORK, NY 10024

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

(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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
				Code	V	Amount	

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	2. Conversion or Exercise	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8) Code	(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Ar or Nu of
Option Right to Buy	\$ 11.53	01/12/2009	D <sup>(1)</sup>		15,000		12/17/2009 <sup>(1)</sup>	12/17/2018	Common Stock	1
Option Right to Buy	\$ 11.53	01/12/2009	A <sup>(1)</sup>	15,000			12/17/2009 <sup>(1)</sup>	12/17/2018	Common Stock	1

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ACKERMAN JOEL 255 WEST 88 STREET #9B NEW YORK, NY 10024		X		

## Signatures

Joel Ackerman                      01/12/2009  
 \_\_Signature of                      Date  
 Reporting Person

## 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).
- The reported transactions involved an amendment of an outstanding option, resulting in the deemed cancellation of the "old" option and (1) the grant of a replacement option. The amendment of the option permits the option to remain exercisable for the original life of the option upon retirement or other similar separation of the reporting person from the Board of Directors of Kindred Healthcare, Inc.

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.