

HEALTH CARE REIT INC /DE/  
Form 4  
January 03, 2012

**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 \*  
ESTES SCOTT A

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
HEALTH CARE REIT INC /DE/ [HCN]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
4500 DORR STREET  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
01/03/2012

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
EVP and CFO

TOLEDO, OH 43615  
(City) (State) (Zip)

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

**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)
				(A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock	01/03/2012		M	1,500 A \$ 37	58,881	D	
Common Stock	01/03/2012		S <sup>(1)</sup>	1,500 D \$ 55.12	57,381	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)

Edgar Filing: HEALTH CARE REIT INC /DE/ - Form 4

**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)	Amount or Number of Shares
Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 37	01/03/2012		M	1,500	01/15/2008 <sup>(2)</sup> 01/26/2014	Common	1,515 <sup>(2)</sup>

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ESTES SCOTT A 4500 DORR STREET TOLEDO, OH 43615			EVP and CFO	

## Signatures

By: Erin C. Ibele Attorney-in-Fact For: Scott A. Estes  
Date: 01/03/2012

\_\_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) The shares covered by this Form 4 have been sold pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 Sales Plan dated September 20, 2011.

(2) Options for the purchase of 6,015 shares of common stock at \$37.00 per share were granted to Mr. Estes on January 26, 2004, which grant has previously been reported. The partial exercise of these options for the purchase of 4,500 has previously been reported. Of the remaining options, options for the purchase of 312 shares vested on January 15, 2008 and options for the purchase of 1,203 shares vested on January 15, 2009.

(3) The options were granted under the Health Care REIT, Inc. 1995 Stock Incentive Plan and had no acquisition 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.