

SMITH JEFFREY RUSSELL
 Form 4
 March 18, 2019

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 *
 SMITH JEFFREY RUSSELL

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 100 VINE STREET
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 03/14/2019

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 SVP & Treasurer

MURFREESBORO, TN 37130
 (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)
			Code	V	Amount or (D) Price		
Shares of Common Stock held in my name	03/14/2019		M		12,000 ⁽¹⁾ \$ 72.94	13,172	D
Shares of Common Stock held in my name	03/14/2019		F		11,178 ⁽²⁾ \$ 80.8	1,994 ⁽³⁾	D

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

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(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)	Amount or Number of Shares
Option to Purchase Common Stock	\$ 72.94	03/14/2019		M	12,000 (1)	02/14/2019 ⁽¹⁾ 03/11/2022	Common Stock	60,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SMITH JEFFREY RUSSELL 100 VINE STREET MURFREESBORO, TN 37130			SVP & Treasurer	

Signatures

/s/ Jeffrey Russell
Smith 03/18/2019

**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 Company's 2010 Omnibus Equity Incentive plan on March 14, 2017. On February 14, 2019, the Compensation Committee amended the option to grant a 30 day window to exercise up to 40% of this option, with any shares issued upon exercise to be held as restricted stock until 2/9/22, the original date exercisable. The grant and exercise of these stock options are exempt from Section 16(b) pursuant to Rule 16b-3(d).

(2) Shares were withheld by the Company to pay the exercise price.

(3) Total amount of common shares owned following transactions reported on this form.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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