

ADAMS W ANDREW  
Form 4  
December 29, 2011

**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 \*  
ADAMS W ANDREW

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)  
222 ROBERT ROSE DRIVE  
  
(Street)  
  
MURFREESBORO, TN 37129  
  
(City) (State) (Zip)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
12/28/2011  
  
4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
  
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 Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (D) Price			
Shares of Common Stock - AdamsMark L.P.	12/28/2011		M	3,050 (1) A \$ 37.7	602,660	D	
Shares of Common Stock-WAA Exempt Trust					1,937	D	
Shares of Common Stock - Adams Children's Trust					77,528	I	Trustee

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Shares of Common Stock - Adams Family Foundation II	35,407	I	Trustee
Shares of Common Stock - Adams Grandchildren's Trust	2,307	I	Trustee
Shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock - AMK, L.P.	479,682	D	
Shares of Series A Conv Pref Stock-WAA Exempt Trust	3,500	D	
Shares of Series A Conv Pref Stock - Adams Children's Trust	77,528	I	Trustee
Shares of Series A Conv Pref Stock-Adams Family Found II	35,407	I	Trustee
Shares of Series A Conv Pef Stock-Adams Grandchildrns Trust	2,307	I	Trustee

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)
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					Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
			Code	V	(A)	(D)			
Option to Purchase Common Stock	\$ 52.5					04/24/2007	04/23/2012	Common Stock	15,000
Option to Purchase Common Stock	\$ 51.5					05/01/2008	05/01/2013	Common Stock	15,000
Option to Purchase Common Stock	\$ 37.7	12/28/2011			M	05/05/2009	05/04/2014	Common Stock	11,000
Option to Purchase Common Stock	\$ 45.8					05/09/2011	05/08/2016	Common Stock	7,500

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ADAMS W ANDREW 222 ROBERT ROSE DRIVE MURFREESBORO, TN 37129			X	

## Signatures

W. Andrew Adams by Ann S. Benson,  
P.O.A. 12/29/2011

\_\_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 2005 Stock Option Plan on May 5, 2009. The grant and exercise of these stock options are exempt from Section 16(b) pursuant to Rule 16b-3(d).

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.