ADAMS ROBERT G

Form 5

Shares of Series A

Convertible

Preferred Stock Â

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446,309

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January 21, 2009

OMB APPROVAL FORM 5 **OMB** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION 3235-0362 Number: Washington, D.C. 20549 Check this box if January 31, Expires: no longer subject 2005 to Section 16. Estimated average ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL Form 4 or Form burden hours per 5 obligations OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES response... 1.0 may continue. See Instruction Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 1(b). Form 3 Holdings Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section Reported 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 Form 4 Transactions Reported 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer ADAMS ROBERT G Symbol NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORP (Check all applicable) [NHC] (Middle) 3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Last) (First) _X_ Director 10% Owner _X__ Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) 12/31/2008 **CEO** 100 VINE ST., SUITE 1400 (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting Filed(Month/Day/Year) (check applicable line) MURFREESBORO, TNÂ 37130 _X_ Form Filed by One Reporting Person Form Filed by More than One Reporting (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. 7. Nature of (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction Indirect Security Acquired (A) or Securities Ownership (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially Form: Direct Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned at end (D) or Ownership of Issuer's Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Fiscal Year (Instr. 4) (A) (Instr. 3 and or Price Amount (D) Shares of Common Â Â G 494 12/31/2008 D \$0 354,932 (1) Stock -**SARA**

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

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SEC 2270 (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)	
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option - "Right to Buy"	\$ 20.9	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/22/2009	03/23/2009	Common Stock	100,959

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
1	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
ADAMS ROBERT G 100 VINE ST., SUITE 1400 MURFREESBORO, TN 37130	ÂX	Â	CEO	Â		

Signatures

Robert G. 01/20/2009 Adams

**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).
- (1) 494 shares purchased pursuant to the 2008 Employee Stock Purchase Program gifted same day to adult children's family partnership.

 Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.

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