Ussery Robert Michael Form 5 January 21, 2009

name of child

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 **Ussery Robert Michael** Symbol NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORP (Check all applicable) [NHC] (Middle) 3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Last) (First) Director 10% Owner _ Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) 12/31/2008 **Chief Operating Officer** 2508 BELFAST COURT (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting Filed(Month/Day/Year) (check applicable line) MURFREESBORO, TNÂ 37129 _X_ 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 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 Â Â Stock owned Â Â Â 63,903 (1) D by myself & spouse Shares of Common Â Â Â Â ÂÂ Â 35 D Stock in

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Shares of Series A

Convertible \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} 37,257 D \hat{A}

Preferred Stock

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)			7. Title and Amoun Underlying Securiti (Instr. 3 and 4)	
					(Instr. 3, 4, and 5) (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numl of Sh
Employee Stock Option-"Right	\$ 20.9	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/22/2009	03/23/2009	Common Stock	12,5

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Keiauonsinps					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Ussery Robert Michael 2508 BELFAST COURT MURFREESBORO, TN 37129	Â	Â	Chief Operating Officer	Â		

Signatures

to Buy"

R. Michael
Ussery

**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).

Reporting Owners 2

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(1) Includes 434 shares acquired pursuant to the Employee Stock Purchase Plan for 2008 Plan Year.

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.