

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORP
 Form 4
 September 14, 2005

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 COGGIN D GERALD

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)
 1942 DILTON-MANKIN ROAD
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 09/14/2005

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 Sr. V.P., Corp Relations

MURFREESBORO, TN 37127
 (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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
Shares of Common Stock in my name and my spouse's name	09/14/2005	09/19/2005	S	15,000	D \$ 35.01	307,263	D
Shares of Common Stock						7,136	I Family Partnership
Shares of Common						66	I Family Partnership

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