

WELCH TED H  
Form 4  
April 13, 2009

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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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 \*  
WELCH TED H

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
NATIONAL HEALTH INVESTORS INC [NHI]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

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

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

611 COMMERCE STREET, SUITE 3102

04/09/2009

(Street)

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

NASHVILLE, TN 37203

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	04/09/2009		M		15,000	A	\$ 23.9
					66,018 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	
Common Stock	04/09/2009		F		12,219	D	\$ 29.34
					53,799	D	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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**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)		
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 23.9	04/09/2009		M	15,000	04/20/2004	04/19/2009	Nhi Common Stock	15,000
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 26.78					05/03/2005	05/02/2010	Nhi Common Stock	15,000
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 23.79					05/02/2006	05/01/2011	Nhi Common Stock	15,000
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 34.25					05/16/2007	05/15/2012	Nhi Common Stock	15,000
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 30.3					04/29/2008	04/28/2013	Nhi Common Stock	15,000
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 25.29					02/25/2009	02/24/2014	Nhi Common Stock	15,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
WELCH TED H 611 COMMERCE STREET, SUITE 3102 NASHVILLE, TN 37203		X		

## Signatures

/s/ Ted H.  
Welch

04/13/2009

\_\_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) The transaction reflected was a cashless exercise, with 15,000 share options converted into 2,781 actual shares.

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