

Gaines Kristin Sallee  
 Form 4  
 February 06, 2012

**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 \*  
 Gaines Kristin Sallee

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)  
 222 ROBERT ROSE DRIVE  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 02/04/2012

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 Chief Credit Officer

MURFREESBORO, TN 37129  
 (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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price
Common Stock	02/04/2012		M		16,667	A	\$ 46.22
Common Stock	02/04/2012		F		15,135	D	\$ 50.9
Common Stock (restricted Stock Award)					0 <sup>(1)</sup>		

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)		
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 46.22	02/04/2012		M	16,667	02/25/2011	02/25/2016	Common Stock	16,667
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 29.24					02/04/2011	02/04/2013	Nhi Common Stock	2,500
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 29.24					02/04/2012	02/04/2013	Nhi Common Stock	2,500
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 46.22					02/25/2012	02/25/2016	Common Stock	16,667
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 34.48					03/02/2012	03/02/2020	Nhi Common Stock	16,668
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 46.22					02/25/2013	02/25/2016	Common Stock	16,666

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

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Director    10% Owner    Officer    Other

Gaines Kristin Sallee  
222 ROBERT ROSE DRIVE  
MURFREESBORO, TN 37129

Chief Credit Officer

## Signatures

/s/ Kristin S.  
Gaines                          02/05/2012

\*\*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) 500 Shares of Common Stock (Restricted Stock Award) vested on February 4, 2012, and were therefore moved to the Common Stock total.

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.