

Gaines Kristin Sallee
 Form 4
 April 08, 2010

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)
 04/06/2010

____ 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 Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	04/06/2010		M		16,666	A	\$ 25.29
Common Stock	04/06/2010		S		10,485	D	\$ 40.2
					19,169	D	
					8,684	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)	\$ 25.29	04/06/2010		M	16,666	02/25/2010	02/25/2013	Nhi Common Stock	16,666
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 29.24					02/04/2009	02/04/2013	Nhi Common Stock	2,500
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 29.24					02/04/2010	02/04/2013	Nhi Common Stock	2,500
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 34.48					03/02/2010	03/02/2020	Nhi Common Stock	16,666
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 29.24					02/04/2011	02/04/2013	Nhi Common Stock	2,500
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 25.29					02/25/2011	02/25/2013	Nhi Common Stock	16,668
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 34.48					03/02/2011	03/02/2020	Nhi Common Stock	16,666
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 29.24					02/04/2012	02/04/2013	Nhi Common Stock	2,500
	\$ 34.48					03/02/2012	03/02/2020		16,668

Stock
Options
(Right to
Buy)

Nhi
Common
Stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Gaines Kristin Sallee 222 ROBERT ROSE DRIVE MURFREESBORO, TN 37129			Chief Credit Officer	

Signatures

Kristin S.
Gaines 04/07/2010

__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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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