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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): November 7, 2008 (November 7, 2008)

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-13489
(Commission File Number)

52-2057472
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**100 Vine Street
Murfreesboro, Tennessee**
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

37130
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (615) 890-2020

Not Applicable
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers

(c) On November 6, 2008, the Company's Board of Directors approved the following appointments effective January 1, 2009. Robert G. Adams will serve as Chairman of the Board. Mr. Adams, age 62, has served as the Company's Chief Executive Officer and President since 2004 and will continue to serve as Chief Executive Officer. Steve F. Flatt, 53, has been appointed President. Mr. Flatt has served as Senior Vice President of Development since 2005. Prior to joining NHC, he served as president of Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee. Michael Ussery, 50, has been appointed Chief Operational Officer. Mr. Ussery has served as Senior Vice President of Operations since 2005. He served as Senior Vice President of the Central Region of the Company from 1993 until 2005.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description of Exhibit</u>
99.1	Copy of press release issued on November 7, 2008 by National HealthCare Corporation

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: November 7, 2008

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

By: /s/ John K. Lines

Name: John K. Lines

Title: Senior Vice President and General Counsel

EXHIBIT INDEX

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For release: November 7, 2008
Contact: Gerald Coggin, Sr. V.P. Corporate Relations
Phone: (615) 890-2020

NHC Board Announces Senior Leadership Appointments

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – The Board of Directors of National HealthCare Corporation (NYSE Alternext-US: NHC, NHC.PR.A), one of the nation's leading operators of long-term health care and assisted living facilities, announced today the appointment of Robert G. Adams as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Michael Ussery as Chief Operational Officer and Steve F. Flatt as President. These changes will become effective January 1, 2009.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains "forward-looking statement" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. All statements other than statements of historical facts included in this press release are forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this press release. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, performance, achievements or transactions of NHC and its respective affiliates to be materially different from any future results, performance, achievements, and transactions. Additional information or factors which could impact the companies and the forward-looking statements contained herein are included in each company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The companies assume no obligation to update or supplement forward-looking statements that become untrue because of subsequent events.

This communication shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offering of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

About NHC

NHC operates for itself and third parties 76 long-term health care centers with 9,772 beds. NHC also operates 32 homecare programs, seven independent living centers and 23 assisted living communities. NHC's other services include Alzheimer's units, long-term care pharmacies, hospice, a rehabilitation services company, and providing management and accounting services to third parties. Other information about the company can be found on our web site at www.NHCcare.com.