

NATIONAL HEALTH INVESTORS INC  
 Form 4  
 September 22, 2008

**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 \*  
 Hopkins Roger R

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)  
 2930 PRINCETON LANE  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 09/18/2008

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 Chief Accounting 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	(A) or (D)	Price
Option to Purchase NHI Common Stock	09/18/2008	09/18/2008	M		2,686	A	\$ 24.5
					4,686		
						D	

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

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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)	
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Option to Purchase NHI Common Stock	\$ 24.5	09/18/2008	09/18/2008	M	10,000	07/21/2008	02/07/2011	NHI Common Stock	10,000
Option to Purchase NHI Common Stock	\$ 24.5					07/21/2009	07/20/2011	NHI Common Stock	5,000
Option to Purchase NHI Common Stock	\$ 24.5					07/21/2010	07/21/2011	NHI Common Stock	5,000
Option to Purchase NHI Common Stock	\$ 24.5					07/20/2011	07/20/2011	NHI Common Stock	5,000
Option to Purchase NHI Common Stock	\$ 29.24					02/04/2009	02/04/2013	NHI Common Stock	10,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Hopkins Roger R 2930 PRINCETON LANE MURFREESBORO, TN 37129			Chief Accounting Officer	

## Signatures

Roger R.  
Hopkins

09/19/2008

\_\_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).

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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