

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM 4

Statement of changes in beneficial ownership of securities

Filing Date: **2013-05-16** | Period of Report: **2013-05-15**
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REPORTING OWNER

ESTES SCOTT A

CIK: **1242824**

Type: **4** | Act: **34** | File No.: **001-08923** | Film No.: **13851350**

Mailing Address
HEALTH CARE REIT, INC.
ONE SEAGATE, SUITE 1500
TOLEDO OH 43604

ISSUER

HEALTH CARE REIT INC /DE/

CIK: **766704** | IRS No.: **341096634** | State of Incorporation: **DE** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**
SIC: **6798** Real estate investment trusts

Mailing Address
4500 DORR STREET
TOLEDO OH 43615

Business Address
4500 DORR STREET
TOLEDO OH 43615
419-247-2800

FORM 4

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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

OMB APPROVAL	
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person ESTES SCOTT A			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol HEALTH CARE REIT INC/DE/ [HCN]			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) EVP and CFO		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/15/2013					
4500 DORR STREET			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check applicable line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form Filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person		
(Street)								
TOLEDO, OH 43615								
(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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	05/15/2013		M		2,500	A	\$45.73	95,313	D	
Common Stock	05/15/2013		S ⁽¹⁾		2,500	D	\$76.511	92,813	D	

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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Amount or Number of Shares
Option (Right to Buy)	\$45.73	05/15/2013		M		2,500	01/15/2008 ⁽²⁾	01/22/2017	Common	5,087 ⁽²⁾	\$ 0 ⁽³⁾	2,587	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- The shares covered by this Form 4 have been sold pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 Sales Plan dated March 22, 2013.
- Options for the purchase of 6,805 shares of common stock at \$45.73 per share were granted to Mr. Estes on January 22, 2007, which grant has previously been reported. The partial exercise of these options for the purchase of 1,718 shares has previously been reported. Of the remaining options, options for the purchase of 1,018 shares vested on January 15 of each of 2008 and 2009 and options for the purchase of 1,017 shares vested on January 15 of each of 2010, 2011 and 2012.

3. The options were granted under the Health Care REIT, Inc. 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan and had no acquisition price.

Signatures

By: Erin C. Ibele Attorney-in-Fact For: Scott A. Estes

** Signature of Reporting Person

05/16/2013

Date

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

* 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.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.