

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORP  
Form 10-Q  
November 09, 2007

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

**FORM 10 Q**

**S QUARTERLY REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2007

OR

**£ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF  
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 001 13489

**NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its Charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

52 2057472

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

100 Vine Street  
Murfreesboro, TN

37130

(Address of principal executive offices)  
(Zip Code)

(615) 890 2020

Registrant=s telephone number, including area code

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) Has filed all reports  
required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d), of the

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Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b02 of the Exchange Act.)

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer   
Non-accelerated filer

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as is defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

12,538,427 shares of common stock were outstanding as of November 5, 2007

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**PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1. Financial Statements.****NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION****INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME**

(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	<u>September 30</u>		<u>September 30</u>	
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
	<i>(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)</i>			
<b>REVENUES:</b>				
Net patient revenues	\$ 134,131	\$ 128,689	\$ 401,642	\$ 375,979
Other revenues	<u>24,380</u>	<u>15,079</u>	<u>53,319</u>	<u>45,409</u>
Net revenues	<u>158,511</u>	<u>143,768</u>	<u>454,961</u>	<u>421,388</u>
<b>COSTS AND EXPENSES:</b>				
Salaries, wages and benefits	83,540	72,798	244,253	223,839
Other operating	40,992	41,660	123,753	121,075
Recovery of notes receivable			(6,195)	(7,309)
Rent	10,535	10,178	31,544	30,808
Depreciation and amortization	3,892	3,588	11,476	10,472
Interest	<u>281</u>	<u>241</u>	<u>851</u>	<u>761</u>
Total costs and expenses	<u>139,240</u>	<u>128,465</u>	<u>405,682</u>	<u>379,646</u>
<b>INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES</b>	19,271	15,303	49,279	41,742
<b>INCOME TAX PROVISION</b>	<u>(6,145)</u>	<u>(6,032)</u>	<u>(17,221)</u>	<u>(16,688)</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<u>\$ 13,126</u>	<u>\$ 9,271</u>	<u>\$ 32,058</u>	<u>\$ 25,054</u>
<b>EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE:</b>				
Basic	\$ 1.05	\$ .75	\$ 2.56	\$ 2.04
Diluted	\$ 1.01	\$ .71	\$ 2.47	\$ 1.94

WEIGHTED AVERAGE COMMON SHARES  
OUTSTANDING:

Basic	12,538,340	12,300,542	12,534,269	12,292,149
Diluted	12,981,366	12,969,936	12,989,561	12,921,595

*The accompanying notes to interim condensed consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these statements.*

**NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**

**INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

*(in thousands)*

**ASSETS**

	September 30 <u>2007</u>	December 31 <u>2006</u>
	<i>(Unaudited)</i>	
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 75,347	\$50,678
Restricted cash	100,751	95,970
Restricted marketable securities	1,325	1,799
Marketable securities	67,336	70,799
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$5,739 and \$4,873	63,768	63,712
Note receivable from National	10,000	
Notes receivable	189	189
Inventory at lower of cost (first in, first out method) or market	6,303	6,377
Prepaid expenses and other assets	<u>1,470</u>	<u>1,087</u>
Total current assets	<u>326,489</u>	<u>290,611</u>
<b>PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT:</b>		
Property and equipment, at cost	267,997	256,767
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>(142,793)</u>	<u>(130,564)</u>
Net property and equipment	<u>125,204</u>	<u>126,203</u>
<b>OTHER ASSETS:</b>		
Bond reserve funds, mortgage replacement reserves and other deposits	164	101
Deposits reserved for land acquisition	12,168	
Goodwill	3,033	3,033
Unamortized financing costs, net	1	32
Notes receivable	9,255	10,099
Note receivable from National		16,351
Deferred income taxes	26,383	18,892

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Minority equity investments and other	<u>8,969</u>	<u>6,155</u>
Total other assets	<u>59,973</u>	<u>54,663</u>
	<u>\$511,666</u>	<u>\$471,477</u>

*The accompanying notes to interim condensed consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these consolidated balance sheets.*

*The condensed consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2006 is taken from the audited consolidated financial statements at that date.*

**NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**

**INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

*(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)*

**LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS= EQUITY**

	September 30 <u>2007</u>	December 31 <u>2006</u>
	<i>(Unaudited)</i>	
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>		
Current portion of long term debt	\$ 10,962	\$ 2,267
Trade accounts payable	7,751	11,823
Accrued payroll	51,641	43,740
Amounts due to third party payors	12,143	11,780
Accrued risk reserves	81,872	76,471
Deferred income taxes	7,399	10,032
Other current liabilities	10,832	10,168
Dividends payable	2,633	2,248
Accrued interest	<u>9</u>	<u>19</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>185,242</u>	<u>168,548</u>
Long Term Debt, less Current Portion		10,381
Other Noncurrent Liabilities	19,996	11,586
Deferred Lease Credit	5,150	6,058
Deferred Revenue	26,120	25,762
Commitments, Contingencies and Guarantees		
<b>SHAREHOLDERS= EQUITY:</b>		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value; 10,000,000 shares authorized; none issued or outstanding		
Common stock, \$.01 par value; 30,000,000 shares authorized; 12,538,427 and 12,519,671 shares, respectively, issued and outstanding	125	125
Capital in excess of par value	96,392	93,751

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Retained earnings	155,118	129,681
Unrealized gains on marketable securities	<u>23,523</u>	<u>25,585</u>
Total shareholders= equity	<u>275,158</u>	<u>249,142</u>
	<u>\$511,666</u>	<u>\$471,477</u>

*The accompanying notes to interim condensed consolidated financial statements are in integral part of these consolidated balance sheets.*

*The interim condensed consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2006 is taken from the audited financial statements at that date.*



**NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**  
**INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
*(Unaudited)*

	Nine Months Ended <u>September 30</u> <u>2007</u> <u>2006</u> <i>(in thousands)</i>	
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Net income	\$32,058	\$25,054
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	11,444	10,440
Provision for doubtful accounts receivable	866	459
Amortization of intangibles and deferred charges	31	32
Gain on sale of land	(10,792)	
Amortization of deferred income	(454)	(437)
Deferred income	867	996
Decrease (increase) in restricted cash	(4,781)	34,253
Stock based compensation	1,947	1,985
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated investments	(4,331)	(3,016)
Amortization of deferred lease credit	(908)	(769)
Deferred income taxes	(8,747)	(2,647)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(922)	(11,724)
Inventory	74	(551)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(1,070)	(608)
Accounts payable	(4,072)	1,911
Accrued payroll	7,901	3,398
Amounts due to third party payors	363	1,540
Accrued interest	(10)	(259)
Other current liabilities and accrued reserves	6,065	9,695
Other noncurrent liabilities	9,310	(359)
Entrance fee deposits	<u>(55)</u>	<u>533</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>34,784</u>	<u>69,926</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Additions to and acquisitions of property and equipment	(11,821)	(26,210)
Collection of notes receivable	7,195	1,601
Purchase of marketable securities		(49,613)

Sale of marketable securities	498	
Distributions from unconsolidated investments	<u>2,210</u>	<u>151</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>(1,918)</u>	<u>(74,071)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Increase (decrease) in minority interests in consolidated subsidiaries	(6)	286
Increase in bond reserve funds, mortgage replacement reserves and other deposits	(63)	(46)
Issuance of common shares	499	593
Tax benefit from exercise of stock options	195	230
Dividends paid to shareholders	(7,136)	(5,893)
Payments on debt	<u>(1,686)</u>	<u>(1,618)</u>
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(8,197)</u>	<u>(6,448)</u>
<b>NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	24,669	(10,593)
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD</b>	<u>50,678</u>	<u>60,870</u>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF PERIOD</b>	<u>\$75,347</u>	<u>\$50,277</u>

*The accompanying notes to interim condensed consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these statements.*

**NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**  
**INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
*(Unaudited)*

Supplemental Information:

	Nine Months Ended <u>September 30</u>	
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
Gain on sale of land	\$10,792	\$
Land	1,394	
Deposits reserved for land acquisition	(12,186)	

Effective July 9, 2007, we sold undeveloped land located in Charleston, South Carolina. The proceeds are being held by a facilitator pending completion of an IRC §1031 exchange.

**NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**  
**Interim Condensed Consolidated Statements of Shareholders= Equity**  
*(in thousands, except share amounts)*  
(unaudited)

	<u>Common Stock</u>		Paid in	Retained	Unrealized	Total
	<u>Shares</u>	<u>Amount</u>	Capital	Earnings	Gains	Share
					on	holders=
					Securities	Equity
Balance at 12/31/05	<u>12,275,693</u>	<u>\$123</u>	<u>\$84,431</u>	<u>\$101,461</u>	<u>\$17,044</u>	<u>\$203,059</u>
Net income				25,054		25,054
Unrealized gains on securities (net of tax of \$698)					3,766	<u>3,766</u>
Total comprehensive income						28,820
Stock based compensation				1,985		1,985
Tax benefit from exercise of stock options				230		230
Shares sold stock purchase plans (including 13,541 options exercised)	28,345		593			593
Dividends declared to common shareholders (\$ .33 per share)	_____	—	—	<u>(6,271)</u>	—	<u>(6,271)</u>
Balance at 9/30/06	<u>12,304,038</u>	<u>\$123</u>	<u>\$87,239</u>	<u>\$120,244</u>	<u>\$20,810</u>	<u>\$228,416</u>
Balance at 12/31/06	<u>12,519,671</u>	<u>\$125</u>	<u>\$93,751</u>	<u>\$129,681</u>	<u>\$25,585</u>	<u>\$249,142</u>
Net income				32,058		32,058
Unrealized losses on securities (net of tax benefit of \$1,377)					(2,062)	<u>(2,062)</u>
Total comprehensive income						29,996
Stock based compensation				1,947		1,947
Cumulative effect of adopting FIN 48 (See Note 3)				900		900
Tax benefit from exercise of stock options				195		195
Shares sold stock purchase plans (including						

10,000						
Options exercised)	18,756		499			499
Dividends declared to common shareholders (\$ .60 per share)	<u>          </u>	-	<u>          </u>	<u>(7,521)</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>(7,521)</u>
Balance at 9/30/07	<u>12,538,427</u>	<u>\$125</u>	<u>\$96,392</u>	<u>\$155,118</u>	<u>\$23,523</u>	<u>\$275,158</u>

*The accompanying notes to interim condensed consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these consolidated statements.*

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

September 30, 2007

(unaudited)

**Note 1 Consolidated Financial Statements**

The unaudited financial statements to which these notes are attached include, in our opinion, all normal, recurring adjustments which are necessary to fairly present the financial position, results of operations and cash flows of National HealthCare Corporation (ANHC@ or the ACompany@). We assume that users of these interim financial statements have read or have access to the audited December 31, 2006 consolidated financial statements and Management=s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and that the adequacy of additional disclosure needed for a fair presentation, except in regard to material contingencies, may be determined in that context. Accordingly, footnotes and other disclosures which would substantially duplicate the disclosure contained in our most recent annual report to stockholders have been omitted. This interim financial information is not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for a full year for a variety of reasons. Our audited December 31, 2006 consolidated financial statements are available at our web site: [www.nhccare.com](http://www.nhccare.com).

**Note 2 Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes**

On January 1, 2007, we adopted the recognition and disclosure provisions of Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 ( FIN 48 ). Under FIN 48, tax positions are evaluated for recognition using a more likely than not threshold, and those tax positions requiring recognition are measured at the largest amount of tax benefit that is greater than 50 percent likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement with a taxing authority that has full knowledge of all relevant information.

As a result of adopting FIN 48, we reported a \$900,000 increase to our January 1, 2007, balance of retained earnings and a decrease in our accruals for uncertain tax positions and related interest and penalties of a corresponding amount. On January 1, 2007, we had \$21,051,000 of unrecognized tax benefits payable, composed of \$11,409,000 of deferred tax assets, \$ 0 of deferred tax liabilities, \$4,117,000 of permanent differences, and \$5,525,000 of accrued interest and penalties payable.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2007, we have recognized a \$1,504,000 decrease in unrecognized tax benefits payable (including \$499,000 of related interest and penalties) due to the effect of statute of limitations lapse on permanent differences. We have also recognized an increase in unrecognized tax benefits payable of \$1,621,000 (including \$138,000 of related interest and penalties) attributable to permanent differences during the same period. The \$1,504,000 decrease in unrecognized tax benefits payable attributable to permanent differences has favorably impacted our effective tax rate.

At September 30, 2007, we had \$19,996,000 of unrecognized tax benefits payable, composed of \$10,107,000 of deferred tax assets, \$-0- of deferred tax liabilities, \$4,595,000 of permanent differences, and \$5,295,000 of accrued interest and penalties payable. Unrecognized tax benefits payable of \$5,926,000 (including \$1,331,000 of accrued interest and penalties payable) at September 30, 2007, attributable to permanent differences, would favorably impact our effective tax rate if recognized. We do not expect to recognize significant increases or decreases in unrecognized tax benefits payable within twelve months of September 30, 2007, except for the effect of statute of limitations lapse.

Interest and penalties expense related to U.S. federal and state income tax returns are included within income tax expense.

The Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal and state examinations by tax authorities for years before 2004. Currently, there are no U.S. federal or state returns under examination.

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

September 30, 2007

(unaudited)

**Note 3 Relationship with National Health Corporation (National)**

National, which is wholly owned by the National Health Corporation Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan ( ESOP ), was formed in 1986 and served as our administrative general partner through December 31, 1997, when we operated as a master limited partnership. As discussed below, the personnel conducting our business, including our executive management team, are employees of National and have ownership interests in National through their participation in the ESOP.

*Sale of Long Term Health Care Centers to and Notes Receivable from National Expected Fourth Quarter Recognition of \$10,000,000 Deferred Gain*

During 1988, we sold the assets (inventory, property and equipment) of eight long term health care centers (1,121 licensed beds) to National for a total consideration of \$40,000,000. The consideration consisted of \$30,000,000 in cash and a \$10,000,000 note receivable due December 31, 2007. The note receivable earns interest at 8.5%. We have agreed to manage the centers under a 20 year management contract for management fees comparable to those in the industry. With our prior consent, National sold one center to an unrelated third party in 1997 and two centers to an unrelated third party in 1999. Thus, we now manage five centers for National. See Note 5 for additional information on management fees recognized from National.

The management contract with National has now been extended until January 20, 2018.

Our carrying amount in the assets sold in 1988 to National was approximately \$24,255,000. The resulting profit of \$15,745,000 was deferred and will be amortized into income beginning with the collection of the note receivable (up to \$10,000,000) and the expiration of a line of credit obligation (\$2,000,000) with the balance (\$3,745,000) of the profit being amortized into income on a straight line basis over the management contract period. Currently, \$10,000,000 of notes receivable are due in the fourth quarter of 2007. Therefore, it is expected that \$10,000,000 of deferred gains and related deferred income taxes of \$4,000,000 will be recognized into income during the quarter ending December 31, 2007. Approximately \$2,000,000 of deferred gain is related to NHC's obligation to loan up to \$2,000,000 to National under a line-of-credit agreement. That amount will remain deferred until the obligation



expires, currently expected in January, 2018.

In conjunction with our management contract, we have entered into a line of credit arrangement whereby we may have amounts due to or due from National from time to time. The maximum available borrowings under the line of credit are \$2,000,000, the interest rate on the line of credit is prime plus one percent and the final maturity is January 20, 2018. At September 30, 2007 no balance was owed under this arrangement.

#### *ESOP Financing Activities*

During 1988, we obtained from National long term financing of \$8,500,000 for the construction of our headquarters building. National obtained its financing through the ESOP. The note requires quarterly principal and interest payments with interest at 9% and is secured by the headquarters building. At December 31, 2006 and September 30, 2007, the outstanding balance on the note was approximately \$519,000 and \$130,000, respectively, which is included Long Term Debt (or as appropriate in the current portion of long term debt) in the Interim Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets. The building is owned by a separate partnership of which we are the general partner and building tenants are limited partners. We own 96.5% of the partnership and consolidate the financial statements of the partnership in our consolidated financial statements. The cumulative equity in earnings of the partnership related to the limited partners ownership is reflected in minority interests in consolidated subsidiaries.

In addition, our \$829,000 senior secured notes payable (\$2,113,000 at December 31, 2006) were financed by National. National obtained its financing through the ESOP. Our interest costs, financing expenses and principal payments with National are consistent with National and the ESOP's terms with their respective lenders.

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

September 30, 2007

(unaudited)

During 1991, we borrowed \$10,000,000 from National. The term note payable requires quarterly interest payments at 8.5%. The entire principal is due at maturity in 2008.

*Payroll and Related Services*

The personnel conducting our business, including our executive management team, are employees of National and have indirect ownership interests in National through their participation in the ESOP. National provides payroll services, provides employee fringe benefits, and maintains certain liability insurance. We pay to National all the costs of personnel employed for our benefit, as well as an administrative fee equal to 1% of payroll costs. Such costs totaling approximately \$302,862,000, \$285,000,000, and \$276,000,000 for 2006, 2005 and 2004, respectively, are reflected as salaries, wages and benefits in our consolidated statements of income. The administrative fee paid to National for 2006, 2005, and 2004 was \$2,700,000, \$2,393,000, and \$2,303,000, respectively. National maintains and makes contributions to its ESOP for the benefit of eligible employees.

*National's Ownership of Our Stock*

At December 31, 2006 and September 30, 2007, National owns 1,238,924 shares (or approximately 9.9%) of our outstanding common stock.

*Consolidation Considerations*

Because of the considerable contractual and management relationships between NHC and National as described in this note above, we have considered whether National should be consolidated by NHC under the guidance provided in FASB Interpretation No. 46(R) (As Amended), Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities [ FIN 46(R) ]. We do not consolidate National because (1) National's equity at risk is sufficient to finance its activities without past or future subordinated support from NHC or other parties, and (2) the equity holders of National (that is collectively the ESOP, its trustees, and the ESOP participants) possess the characteristics of a controlling financial interest, including voting rights that are proportional to their economic interests. Supporting the assertions above is the following: (1) substantive independent trustees are appointed for the benefit of the ESOP participants when decisions must be made

that may create the appearance of a conflict of interest between NHC and the ESOP, and (2) National was designed, formed and is operated for the purpose of creating variability and passing that variability along to the ESOP participants that is, to provide retirement benefits and value to the employees of NHC and NHC's affiliates.

**Note 4 Relationship with National Health Investors, Inc.**

On March 13, 2006, we announced an agreement with National Health Investors, Inc. (NHI) to end the use of NHC's senior officers as advisors to NHI, effective on or about December 31, 2006. NHC's Board believes it to be in the best interest of NHC to accentuate its independence from NHI, its largest landlord.

Effective December 31, 2006, NHC's agreement to provide services to NHI's advisor was terminated.

## NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

September 30, 2007

(unaudited)

**Note 5 Other Revenues**

Other revenues include the following:

	Three Months Ended <u>September 30</u> <u>2007</u>		Nine Months Ended <u>September 30</u> <u>2006</u>	
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
	<i>(in thousands)</i>			
Gain on sale of land	\$10,792	\$	\$10,792	\$
Insurance services	3,900	4,925	11,960	14,574
Management and accounting service fees	3,490	4,262	11,876	12,744
Guarantee fees			5	9
Advisory fee from Management Advisory Source, LLC		328		984
Advisory fee from NHR	125	125	375	375
Dividends and other realized gains on securities	983	949	2,881	2,844
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated investments	1,734	819	4,331	3,016
Interest income	2,022	2,407	7,570	7,434
Rental income	645	808	1,939	2,286
Other	<u>689</u>	<u>456</u>	<u>1,590</u>	<u>1,143</u>
	<u>\$24,380</u>	<u>\$15,079</u>	<u>\$53,319</u>	<u>\$45,409</u>

Effective July 9, 2007, we sold undeveloped land located in Charleston, South Carolina for approximately \$12,200,000 and recognized a gain of approximately \$10,792,000 related to the sale. Proceeds from this sale are being held by a facilitator pending completion of an IRC §1031 exchange. The unexpended portion of the proceeds are included in Other Assets on the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2007, insurance services revenues declined because (1) the number of centers covered for workers compensation insurance decreased from 69 centers to 59 centers, and (2) workers compensation rates declined in Florida due to the state rate-setting process.

We manage five long-term care centers owned by National. During the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, National paid and we recognized approximately zero and \$52,000, respectively, of management fees and interest on management fees, which amounts are included in management and accounting service fees above.

The unpaid fees from the five centers owned by National, because the amount collectable could not be reasonably determined when the management services were provided, and because we cannot estimate the timing or amount of expected future collections, will be recognized as revenues only when fixed or determinable and collectibility of these fees can be reasonably assured. Under the terms of our management agreement with National, the payment of these fees to us may be subordinated to other expenditures of the five long-term care centers. We continue to manage these centers so that we may be able to collect our fees in the future and because the incremental savings from discontinuing services to a center may be small compared to the potential benefit. We may receive payment for the unrecognized management fees in whole or in part in the future only if cash flows from the operating and investing activities of the five centers are sufficient to pay the fees. There can be no assurance that such future improved cash flows will occur.

We manage 18 long-term care centers that were previously owned by NHI. During the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, we recognized \$2,467,000 and \$2,375,000, respectively, of management fees and interest from these 18 long-term care centers.

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

September 30, 2007

(unaudited)

Of the total 18 centers managed, the management fee revenues from eight centers were currently paid and recognized on the accrual method in 2007 and 2006. The fees from the remaining ten centers, because of insufficient historical collections and the lack of expected future collections, are recognized only when realized. Under the terms of our management agreements, the payment of these fees to us may be subordinated to other expenditures of each of the long-term care providers. We continue to manage these centers so that we may be able to collect our fees in the future and because the incremental savings from discontinuing services to a center may be small compared to the potential benefit. We may receive payment for the unrecognized management fees in whole or in part in the future only if cash flows from operating and investing activities of the centers are sufficient to pay the fees. There can be no assurance that such future improved cash flows will occur.

Effective December 31, 2006, our contract to manage a 176 bed long term care center in Aiken, South Carolina was terminated when the County of Aiken, South Carolina completed the sale of the facility to a third party. We earned approximately \$500,000 in 2006 in management fee revenues from the facility.

As disclosed in Note 4 to the Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, the advisory fee from Management Advisory Source, LLC shown in the table above was terminated effective December 31, 2006.

## **Note 6 Guarantees and Contingencies**

### *General and Professional Liability Lawsuits and Insurance*

Across the nation, the entire long term care industry has experienced a dramatic increase in personal injury/wrongful death claims and awards based on alleged negligence by nursing facilities and their employees in providing care to residents. As of September 30, 2007, we and/or our managed centers are currently defendants in 62 such claims covering 1995 through September 30, 2007. Ten of the 62 suits are in Florida, where we have not operated or managed long term care providers since September 30, 2000. Of the 10 Florida suits, three suits relate to events before

and seven suits relate to events after our cessation of business in Florida. These latter seven suits assert allegations of continued exposure even after we ceased operations.

In 2002 we established and capitalized a wholly owned licensed liability insurance company. Thus since 2002, insurance coverage for incidents occurring at all providers owned or leased and most providers managed by us is provided through this wholly owned insurance company.

Our coverages for all years include both primary policies and umbrella policies. Commencing with 2002, deductibles were eliminated with first dollar coverage being provided through the wholly owned insurance company, while the excess coverage was provided by a third party insurer.

Beginning in 2003 both primary professional liability insurance coverage and excess coverage is provided through our wholly owned liability insurance company in the amount of \$1 million per occurrence, \$3 million per location with an aggregate primary policy limit of \$11.0 million in 2003, \$12.0 million in 2004 and \$14.0 million in years 2005-2007. There is a \$7.5 million annual excess aggregate coverage applicable to each year.

For these professional liability insurance operations, the premium revenues reflected in our financial statements as *Other revenues* for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively, are \$2,560,000 and \$2,883,000. Associated losses and expenses including those for self insurance are included in the financial statements as *Other operating costs and expenses*. Related costs total \$4,097,000 and \$4,944,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively.

As a result of the terms of our insurance policies and our use of a wholly owned insurance company, we have retained significant self insured risk with respect to general and professional liability. We use independent actuaries to assist management to estimate our exposures for claims obligations (for both asserted and unasserted claims) related to

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exposures in excess of coverage limits, and we maintain reserves for these obligations. **It is possible that claims against us could exceed our coverage limits and our reserves, which would have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations and cash flows.**

*Debt Guarantees*

In addition to our primary debt obligations, which are included in our condensed consolidated balance sheet, we have guaranteed the debt obligations of certain other entities. Those guarantees, which are not included as debt obligations in our consolidated financial statements, total \$8,439,000 at September 30, 2007 and include \$3,924,000 of debt of a long term health care center and \$4,515,000 of debt of National Health Investors, Inc. ( NHI ). National Health Corporation (ANational@) and the National Health Corporation Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the AESOP@) are secondary obligors for the \$4,515,000 of debt.

The \$3,924,000 guarantee relates to first mortgage debt obligations of one long term health care center to which we previously provided management or accounting services. This guaranteed indebtedness is secured by first mortgages, pledges of personal property, accounts receivable, marketable securities and, in certain instances, the personal guarantees of the owners of the facility.

The \$4,515,000 of guarantees of debt of NHI relates to senior secured notes held by financial institutions. This debt had been debt of NHC until it was transferred to NHI along with related assets at the inception of NHI in 1991. The total outstanding balance under these senior secured notes is \$5,344,000. Of this obligation, \$829,000 has been included in our debt obligations because we are a direct obligor on this indebtedness. The remaining \$4,515,000, which is not included in our debt obligations because we are not a direct obligor, is due from NHI as primary obligor.

As of September 30, 2007, our maximum potential loss related to the aforementioned debt is \$8,439,000 which is the outstanding balance of our guarantees.



*Debt Cross Defaults*

Through a guarantee agreement, our \$829,000 senior secured notes and our \$4,515,000 guarantee described above have cross default provisions with other debt of National and the ESOP. We currently believe that National and the ESOP are in compliance with the terms of their debt agreements.

**Note 7 Notes Receivable Recoveries**

In May 2007 and June 2006, we collected notes receivable which had previously been written off in the amounts of \$6,195,000 and \$7,309,000, respectively. The collections are directly attributable to operations and are reported as recoveries of notes receivable in the condensed consolidated statements of income.

**Note 8 New Accounting Pronouncements**

In February 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 155 Accounting for Certain Hybrid Financial Instruments an amendment of FASB Statements No. 133 and 140 ( FAS 155 ). FAS 155 addresses the following: a) permits fair value remeasurement for any hybrid financial instrument that contains an embedded derivative that otherwise would require bifurcation; b) clarifies which interest only strips are not subject to the requirements of Statement 133; c) establishes a requirement to evaluate interests in securitized financial assets to identify interests that are freestanding derivatives or that are hybrid financial instruments that contain an embedded derivative requiring bifurcation; d) clarifies that concentrations of credit risk in the form of subordination are not embedded derivatives; and e) amends Statement 140 to eliminate the prohibition on a qualifying special purpose entity from holding a derivative financial instrument that pertains to a beneficial interest other than another derivative financial instrument. SFAS 155 is effective for all financial instruments

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acquired or issued by the Company after January 1, 2007. The adoption of SFAS 155 did not have a significant impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

In March 2006, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 156, Accounting for Servicing of Financial Assets – An Amendment of FASB Statement No. 140. This standard amends the guidance in FASB Statement No. 140, Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities. Among other requirements, Statement 156 requires an entity to recognize a servicing asset or servicing liability each time it undertakes an obligation to service a financial asset by entering into a servicing contract in any of the following situations: a) a transfer of the servicer's financial assets that meets the requirements for sale accounting; b) a transfer of the servicer's financial assets to a qualifying special purpose entity in a guaranteed mortgage securitization in which the transferor retains all of the resulting securities and classifies them as either available-for-sale securities or trading securities in accordance with FASB Statement No. 115, Accounting for Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities; or c) an acquisition or assumption of an obligation to service a financial asset that does not relate to financial assets of the servicer or its consolidated affiliates. Statement 156 became effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2007. The adoption did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements ( SFAS 157 ). SFAS 157 defines fair value, provides a framework for measuring fair value in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, and expands the disclosures required for fair value measurements. SFAS 157 applies to other accounting pronouncements that require fair value measurements; it does not require any new fair value measurements. This statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. We do not expect this statement to have a material effect on our consolidated financial position, operating results or cash flows.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities – Including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115 ( SFAS 159 ). SFAS 159 permits entities to choose to measure certain financial assets and liabilities and other eligible items at fair value, which are not otherwise currently required to be measured at fair value. Under SFAS 159, the decision to measure items at fair value is made at specified election dates on an irrevocable instrument by instrument basis. Entities electing the fair value option would be required to recognize changes in fair value in earnings and to expense upfront cost and fees associated with the item for which the fair value option is elected. If we elect the fair value option provided for in this standard, we would adopt SFAS 159 on January 1, 2008. We have not yet determined whether we will elect the option provided for in this standard, or the impact that the elective adoption may have on our consolidated financial position, operating

results or cash flows.

**Note 9 Earnings per Share**

Basic earnings per share is based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period.

Diluted earnings per share assumes the exercise of options using the treasury stock method.

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The following table summarizes the earnings and the average number of common shares used in the calculation of basic and diluted earnings per share.

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30		September 30	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
<b>Basic:</b>				
Weighted average common shares outstanding	<u>12,538,340</u>	<u>12,300,542</u>	<u>12,534,269</u>	<u>12,292,149</u>
Net income	<u>\$13,126,000</u>	<u>\$ 9,271,000</u>	<u>\$32,058,000</u>	<u>\$25,054,000</u>
Earnings per common share, basic	<u>\$ 1.05</u>	<u>\$ .75</u>	<u>\$ 2.56</u>	<u>\$ 2.04</u>
<b>Diluted:</b>				
Weighted average common shares outstanding	12,538,340	12,300,542	12,534,269	12,292,149
Incremental shares	<u>443,026</u>	<u>669,394</u>	<u>455,292</u>	<u>629,446</u>
Assumed average common shares outstanding	<u>12,981,366</u>	<u>12,969,936</u>	<u>12,989,561</u>	<u>12,921,595</u>
Net income	<u>\$13,126,000</u>	<u>\$ 9,271,000</u>	<u>\$32,058,000</u>	<u>\$25,054,000</u>
Earnings per common share, diluted	<u>\$ 1.01</u>	<u>\$ .71</u>	<u>\$ 2.47</u>	<u>\$ 1.94</u>

Excluded in the above table are 161,748 shares of stock options because they are anti-dilutive.

**Note 10 Stock Option Plans**

Our shareholders approved the 2005 Stock Option, Employee Stock Purchase, Physician Stock Purchase and Stock Appreciation Rights Plan (the APlan@) which provides for the grant of stock options to key employees, directors and non employee consultants. Under the Plan, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors (Athe

Committee@) has the authority to select the participants to be granted options; to designate whether the option granted is an incentive stock option (AISO@), a non-qualified option, or a stock appreciation right; to establish the number of shares of common stock that may be issued upon exercise of the option; to establish the vesting provision for any award; and to establish the term any award may be outstanding. The exercise price of any ISO=s granted will not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the shares of common stock on the date granted and the term of an ISO may not be any more than ten years. The exercise price of any non-qualified options granted will not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the shares of common stock on the date granted unless so determined by the Committee.

Under the Plan, options issued to non-employee directors are granted automatically on the date of our annual shareholder meeting, vest immediately upon grant and have a maximum five year term. Options issued to employees in 2000 vested over a six year period and had a maximum six year term. Options issued to employees in 2004 vest over a five year period and have a maximum five year term. Options issued to employees in 2007 vest over a 2.1 year period and have a maximum 2.1 year term.

The fair value of each option award is estimated on the grant date, using the Black-Scholes option valuation model with the weighted average assumptions indicated in the following table. Generally, awards are subject to cliff vesting. Each grant is valued as a single award with an expected term based upon expected participants and termination behavior. Compensation cost is recognized over the requisite service period in a manner consistent with the option vesting provisions. The straight-line attribution method requires that compensation expense is recognized at least equal to the portion of the grant-date fair value that is vested at that date. The expected volatility is derived using daily historical data for periods immediately preceding the date of grant. The risk-free interest rate is the approximate yield on the United States Treasury Strips having a life equal to the expected option life on the date of grant. The expected life is an estimate of the number of years an option will be held before it is exercised.

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	<u>Nine Months</u> <u>Ended September</u> <u>30</u>	
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Risk free interest rate	4.64%	4.77%
Expected volatility	27.9%	27.2%
Expected life, in years	2.1 years	2.6 years
Expected dividend yield	1.92%	1.98%
Expected forfeiture rate	0.00%	1.48%

The following table summarizes option activity:

	<u>Number of</u> <u>Shares</u>	<u>Weighted</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Exercise Price</u>	<u>Aggregate</u> <u>Intrinsic</u> <u>Value</u>
Options outstanding at December 31, 2004	1,383,000	\$20.83	
Options granted	90,000	33.24	
Options exercised	(25,000)	18.11	
Options forfeited	<u>(17,000)</u>	14.72	
Options outstanding at December 31, 2005	1,431,000	21.72	
Options granted	122,394	42.33	
Options exercised	(239,174)	24.33	
Options cancelled	(22,901)	38.13	
Options forfeited	<u>(2,140)</u>	37.00	
Options outstanding at December 31, 2006	1,289,179	23.13	

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Options granted	161,748	53.67	
Options exercised	(10,000)	17.25	
Options cancelled	<u>(53,000)</u>	20.90	
Options outstanding at September 30, 2007	<u>1,387,927</u>	26.82	\$49,509,000
Options exercisable September 30, 2007	<u>380,000</u>	<u>\$40.53</u>	\$4,125,000

<u>Options Outstanding</u>	<u>Exercise Prices</u>	<u>Weighted Average Exercise Price</u>	<u>Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life in Years</u>
1,016,179	\$19.60 to \$20.90	\$20.86	1.5
<u>371,748</u>	\$27.01 to \$55.45	\$43.10	2.8
<u>1,387,927</u>			

At September 30, 2007, 380,000 options outstanding are exercisable. Exercise prices on the options range from \$19.60 to \$55.45. The weighted average remaining contractual life of options outstanding at September 30, 2007 is 1.8 years. The weighted average fair value of options granted during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006

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were \$9.47 (\$1,531,973) and \$8.20 (\$1,004,000) per share, respectively. The total intrinsic value of shares exercised during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 are \$341,000 and \$1,087,000, respectively.

Additionally, we have an employee stock purchase plan that allows employees to purchase our shares of stock through payroll deductions. The plan allows employees to terminate participation at any time.

Our policy is to issue new shares to satisfy share option exercises. In May 2005, our shareholders approved the 2005 National HealthCare Corporation Stock Option, Employee Stock Purchase, Physician Stock Purchase and Stock Appreciation Rights Plan. We have reserved 985,738 shares of common stock for issuance under these plans.

Effective January 1, 2006, we adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), AShare Based Payment@ (ASFAS 123(R)@), using the modified prospective application transition method. Under this method, compensation cost is recognized, beginning January 1, 2006, based on the requirements of SFAS 123(R) for all share based payments granted after the effective date, and based on Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, AAccounting for Stock Based Compensation (ASFAS 123@), for all awards granted to employees prior to January 1, 2006 that remain unvested on the effective date. Prior to January 1, 2006, we applied Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, AAccounting for Stock Issued to Employees@ (AAPB 25@) and related interpretations in accounting for our employee stock benefit plans. Accordingly, no compensation cost was recognized for stock options granted under the plans because the exercise prices for options granted were equal to the quoted market prices on the option grant dates and all option grants were to employees or directors. Results for prior periods have not been restated.

NHC recognized \$1,947,000 and \$1,985,000 of share-based compensation expense for the nine month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively. SFAS 123(R) requires that the benefits of tax deductions in excess of amounts recognized as compensation cost be reported as a financing cash flow, rather than an operating cash flow, as required under prior accounting guidance. Tax deductions in excess of amounts recognized as compensation costs totaled \$195,000 and \$230,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively. No share based compensation cost was capitalized during the current periods. The total compensation cost related to non vested awards not yet recognized is \$2,063,000 and the weighted average period over which it is to be recognized is 2.0 years.



**Note 11 - Series B Junior Participating Preferred Stock**

On August 2, 2007, the NHC board of directors approved the adoption of a stockholder rights plan and declared a dividend distribution of one right (a "Right") for each outstanding share of NHC common stock to stockholders of record at the close of business on August 2, 2007. Each Right entitles the registered holder to purchase from NHC a unit consisting of one one-ten thousandth of a share of Series B Junior Participating Preferred Stock, \$0.01 par value at a purchase price of \$250 per Unit, subject to adjustment. The description and terms of the Rights are set forth in a rights agreement between NHC and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., as rights agent, dated as of August 2, 2007, as may be amended, restated or otherwise modified from time to time.

**Note 12 Subsequent Events**

*Merger of National HealthCare Corporation and National Health Realty, Inc. and Issuance of NHC Convertible Preferred Stock*

On October 31, 2007, NHC completed its acquisition of National Realty, Inc., ( NHR ) as contemplated by the Agreement and Plan of Merger (the Merger Agreement ), dated December 20, 2006, by and among Davis Acquisition sub LLC, NHC/OP, L.P., NHR and NHC, following the approval of the merger by the stockholders of NHR and the adoption of the amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation of NHC and approval of the issuance of shares of NHC Series A Convertible Preferred Stock ( NHC Preferred ) by the stockholders of NHC.

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Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, NHR merged into Davis Acquisition Sub LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of NHC. Each share of NHR, issued and outstanding immediately prior to the merger, and not owned by Davis Acquisition Sub LLC, NHC/OP, L.P., or NHC, were converted into the right to receive \$9.00 in cash, without interest and one share of NHC Preferred.

Each share of the NHC Preferred is entitled to annual preferred dividends of \$0.80 per share and has a liquidation preference of \$15.75 per share. The NHC Preferred, which will be listed on the American Stock Exchange with the symbol NHC.PR.A, is convertible at any time at the option of the shareholder into NHC common stock at a conversion price of \$65.07. Each share of the NHC Preferred will be convertible into 0.24204 of a share of NHC common stock. After the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the closing date, NHC will have the option to redeem the NHC Preferred, in whole or in part, for \$15.75 cash per share (plus accrued but unpaid dividends); provided that the NHC Preferred will not be redeemable prior to the 8th anniversary of the closing date unless the average closing price for NHC common stock for 20 trading sessions equals or exceeds the conversion price. The conversion price will be adjusted to reflect any future NHC stock splits or stock dividends. The cash required to complete the merger was provided substantially from NHC's existing liquidity reserves.

NHC expects to pay a total of approximately \$97,571,000 in cash to NHR stockholders, plus cash in lieu of fractional shares, and to issue approximately 10,841,250 shares of NHC Preferred with a liquidation preference of \$170,750,000 pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, based on the number of NHR shares of common stock deemed outstanding on October 31, 2007, as calculated under the Merger Agreement.

*Anticipated Accounting Treatment of the Purchase* NHC intends to account for the merger as a purchase transaction under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. Under the purchase method of accounting, the assets and liabilities of NHR will be recorded, as of the completion of the merger, at their respective fair values and added to those of NHC. These allocations will be based upon valuations that have not yet been finalized. The financial condition and results of operations of NHC after completion of the merger will reflect NHR's balances and results beginning on November 1, 2007 but will not be restated retroactively to reflect the historical financial position or results of operations of NHR.

Following the completion of the merger, the earnings of the combined company will reflect purchase accounting adjustments, including the effect of changes in the cost bases of assets and liabilities on depreciation and amortization expenses. Long-lived assets will be evaluated for impairment when events or changes in economic circumstances indicate the carrying amount of such assets may not be recoverable. Any future impairments or market value adjustments would reduce the asset carrying values and result in changes to earnings for the combined company. It is not expected that goodwill will be recorded as a result of the merger.

*\$75,000,000 Revolving Credit Agreement*

On October 30, 2007, National HealthCare Corporation entered into a Credit Agreement (the *Credit Agreement*) with Bank of America, N.A., as lender (the *Lender*). The Credit Agreement provides for a \$75,000,000 revolving credit facility (the *Credit Facility*), of which of up to \$5,000,000 may be utilized for letters of credit.

The Credit Facility matures 364 days after the closing date of October 30, 2007. Between 90 and 120 days prior to the maturity date, NHC may request the extension of the maturity date. If the Lender elects to consent to such extension, subject to certain conditions, the maturity date will be extended to the date which is 364 days after the then maturity date.

NHC is permitted to prepay the loans outstanding under the Credit Facility at any time, without penalty. Loans bear interest at either (i) the Eurodollar rate plus 0.25% or (ii) the base rate. Letter of credit fees are equal to 0.25% times the maximum amount available to be drawn under outstanding letters of credit.

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NHC's obligations under the Credit Agreement are guaranteed by certain NHC subsidiaries and are secured by pledges by NHC and the guarantors of (i) 100% of the equity interests of domestic subsidiaries and (ii) up to 65% of the voting equity interests and 100% of the non-voting equity interests of foreign subsidiaries, in each case, held by NHC or the guarantors.

The Credit Agreement contains customary representations and warranties, and covenants, including covenants that restrict, among other things, asset dispositions, mergers and acquisitions, dividends, restricted payments, debt, liens, investments and affiliate transactions. The Credit Agreement contains customary events of default.

The Credit Facility is available for general corporate purposes, including working capital and acquisitions.

**Item 2.**

**Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.**

Overview

National HealthCare Corporation (ANHC@ or the ACompany@) is a leading provider of long term health care services. We operate or manage 73 long term health care centers with 9,127 beds in 10 states and provide other services in two additional states. These operations are provided by separately funded and maintained subsidiaries.

We provide long term health care services to patients in a variety of settings including long term nursing centers, managed care specialty units, sub acute care units, Alzheimer's care units, hospice programs, homecare programs, assisted living centers and independent living centers. In addition, we provide management and accounting services to owners of long term health care centers and advisory services to National Health Realty, Inc., (ANHR@).

Summary of Goals and Areas of Focus

*Merger of National HealthCare Corporation and National Health Realty, Inc., and Issuance of NHC Convertible Preferred Stock* - Subsequent to the balance sheet date, on October 31, 2007, NHC completed its acquisition of National Realty, Inc., ( NHR ) as contemplated by the Agreement and Plan of Merger (the Merger Agreement ), dated December 20, 2006, by and among Davis Acquisition sub LLC, NHC/OP, L.P., NHR and NHC, following the approval of the merger by the stockholders of NHR and the adoption of the amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation of NHC and approval of the issuance of shares of NHC Series A Convertible Preferred Stock ( NHC Preferred ) by the stockholders of NHC. The acquisition is expected to enable us to move forward with future growth opportunities, to enhance our cash flows, and to provide us with ownership of a portfolio of first class health care, retirement and assisted living centers.

*\$75,000,000 Revolving Credit Agreement* Subsequent to the balance sheet date, on October 30, 2007, National HealthCare Corporation entered into a Credit Agreement (the Credit Agreement ) with Bank of America, N.A., as lender (the Lender ). The Credit Agreement provides for a \$75,000,000 revolving credit facility (the Credit Facility ), of which of up to \$5,000,000 may be utilized for letters of credit.

The Credit Facility is available for general corporate purposes, including working capital and acquisitions. We obtained the line of credit to fund further growth strategies as opportunities arise.

*Earnings* To monitor our earnings, we have developed budgets and management reports to monitor labor, census, and the composition of revenues. Inflationary increases in our costs may cause net earnings from patient services to decline.

*Development and Growth* During the third quarter of 2006, we placed in service a 30 bed addition to an existing long term care facility located in Farragut, Tennessee and a 60 bed addition to an existing long term care facility located in Mauldin, South Carolina. During the first quarter of 2007, we placed in service 60 bed additions to existing long term care facilities located in Garden City and Columbia, South Carolina. The cost of the additions is approximately

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\$19,169,000. In addition, we have begun construction of a 60 bed addition to an existing facility located in North Augusta, South Carolina (expected cost \$6,403,000). Cost incurred at September 30, 2007 was approximately \$406,000. All of these additions are to long-term healthcare facilities, the real property of which was owned by NHR prior to the completion of our purchase of NHR on October 31, 2007.

In March, 2006, we purchased for \$5,400,000 a 200 bed long term care facility located in Town and Country Missouri. We had managed the center since 2001.

In 2007 we are continuing to develop an active hospice program in South Carolina independently of our partnership with Caris Healthcare and are also exploring opportunities to expand our home health care services. Also during 2007, we will apply for Certificates of Need for additional beds in our markets and also evaluate the feasibility of expansion into new markets by building private pay health care centers or by the purchase of existing health care centers.

*NHI Advisory Management Changes* On March 13, 2006, we reached agreement with NHI to end the use of NHC=s senior officers as advisors to NHI, effective December 31, 2006. NHC=s Board believes it is in the best interest of NHC to accentuate its independence from NHI, its largest landlord. NHC ceased providing advisory services effective December 31, 2006. Advisory service fees totaled \$985,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2006.

*Accrued Risk Reserves* Our accrued professional liability reserves, workers= compensation reserves and health insurance reserves totaled \$81,872,000 at September 30, 2007 and are a primary area of management focus. We have set aside restricted cash to fully fund our professional liability and workers= compensation reserves.

As to the risks of fire, we have installed fire sprinklers in all of our owned and leased long term care centers that were not already so equipped. In addition, we have implemented a comprehensive fire safety training program at all of our centers and reviewed and modified, if necessary, our priority safety procedures. As to the tragic fire on September 25, 2003 at the Nashville skilled nursing subsidiary, all 32 lawsuits filed against us have now been settled, the last two settlements occurring in November, 2006.

As to exposure for professional liability claims, we have developed for our centers performance certification criteria to measure and bring focus to the patient care issues most likely to produce professional liability exposure, including in house acquired pressure ulcers, significant weight loss and numbers of falls. These programs for certification, which we regularly modify and improve, have produced measurable improvements in reducing these incidents. Our experience is that achieving goals in these patient care areas improves both patient and employee satisfaction. Furthermore, we are continuing efforts to identify and restructure the ownership or management of our higher risk operations and locations to eliminate NHC liability exposure.

As to workers= compensation claims, we have implemented programs such as safety boards, safety awards, and tracking systems for Adays without a lost time accident@ to bring focus to these risks at all of our locations. As to health insurance claims, in 2005 we changed our health plan network provider to obtain better discounts, and we continue to evaluate our health plan design to identify opportunities for improvements and cost savings.

#### Application of Critical Accounting Policies

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates and cause our reported net income to vary significantly from period to period.

Our critical accounting policies that are both important to the portrayal of our financial condition and results and require our most difficult, subjective or complex judgments are as follows:

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*Revenue Recognition Third Party Payors* Approximately 63% (2006), 63% (2005), and 64% (2004) of our net revenues are derived from Medicare, Medicaid, and other government programs. Amounts earned under these programs are subject to review by the Medicare and Medicaid intermediaries. In our opinion, adequate provision has been made for any adjustments that may result from these reviews. Any differences between our estimates of settlements and final determinations are reflected in operations in the year finalized. We have made provisions of approximately \$8,101,000 for other various Medicare and Medicaid issues for current and prior year cost reports. Consistent with our revenue recognition policies, we will record revenues associated with the various issues when the approvals, including the final cost report audits, are assured. We recorded revenues of \$1,418,000 for such cost report in the nine months ended September 30, 2007. Adjustments of a similar nature were not significant in the nine months ended September 30, 2006.

*Revenue Recognition Private Pay* For private pay patients in skilled nursing or assisted living facilities, we bill room and board in advance for the current month with payment being due upon receipt of the statement in the month the services are performed. Charges for ancillary, pharmacy, therapy and other services to private patients are billed in the month following the performance of services. All billings are recognized as revenue when the services are performed.

*Accrued Risk Reserves* We are principally self insured for risks related to employee health insurance, workers= compensation and professional and general liability claims. Our accrued risk reserves primarily represent the accrual for self insured risks associated with employee health insurance, workers= compensation and professional and general liability claims. The accrued risk reserves include a liability for reported claims and estimates for incurred but unreported claims. Our policy with respect to a significant portion of our workers= compensation and professional and general liability claims is to use an actuary to support the estimates recorded for incurred but unreported claims. Our health insurance reserve is based on our known claims incurred and an estimate of incurred but unreported claims determined by our analysis of historical claims paid. We reassess our accrued risk reserves on a quarterly basis.

Professional liability remains an area of particular concern to us. The entire long term care industry has seen personal injury/wrongful death claims based on alleged negligence by nursing homes and their employees in providing care to residents. As of September 30, 2007, we and/or our managed centers are defendants in 62 such claims inclusive of years 1995 through 2007. It remains possible that these pending matters plus potential unasserted claims could exceed our reserves, which would have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations and cash flows. It is also possible that future events could cause us to make significant adjustments or revisions to these reserve estimates and cause our reported net income to vary significantly from period to period.



We maintain insurance coverage for incidents occurring in all provider locations owned, leased or managed by us. The coverages include both primary policies and umbrella policies.

For 2002, we maintain primary coverage through our own insurance company with excess coverage provided by a third party insurance company. For 2003-2007, we maintain both primary and excess coverage through our own insurance subsidiary. In all years, settlements, if any, in excess of available insurance policy limits and our own reserves would be expensed by us.

*Revenue Recognition Subordination of Fees and Uncertain Collections* We provide management services to certain long-term care facilities and to others we provide accounting and financial services. We generally charge 6% of net revenues for our management services and a predetermined fixed rate per bed for the accounting and financial services. Our policy is to recognize revenues associated with both management services and accounting and financial services on an accrual basis as the services are provided. However, under the terms of our management contracts, payments for our management services are subject to subordination to other expenditures of the long-term care center being managed. Furthermore, there are certain of the third parties with whom we have contracted to provide services and which we have determined, based on insufficient historical collections and the lack of expected future collections, that collection is not reasonably assured and our policy is to recognize income only in the period in which the amounts are realized. We recognize the expenses related to the provision of those services in the period in which they are incurred. We may receive payment for the unpaid and unrecognized management fees in whole or in part in the future only if cash flows from the operating and investing activities of the centers are sufficient to pay the fees. There can be no assurance that such future

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cash flows will occur. The realization of such previously unrecognized revenue could cause our reported net income to vary significantly from period to period.

We agree to subordinate our fees to the other expenses of a managed center because we believe we know how to improve the quality of patient services and finances of a long term care center and because subordinating our fees demonstrates to the owner and employees of the managed center how confident we are of the impact we can have in making the center operations successful. We may continue to provide services to certain managed centers despite not being fully paid currently so that we may be able to collect unpaid fees in the future from improved operating results and because the incremental savings from discontinuing services to a center may be small compared to the potential benefit. Also, we may benefit from providing other ancillary services to the managed center. We may receive payment for the unrecognized management fees in whole or in part in the future only if cash flows from the operating and investment activities of the centers are sufficient to pay the fees. There can be no assurance that such future cash flows will occur.

See Notes 3, 4, and 5 to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements regarding our relationships with National, NHI and centers previously owned by NHI and the recognition of management fees from long term care centers owned by these parties.

Certain of our accounts receivable from private paying patients and certain of our notes receivable are subject to credit losses. We have attempted to reserve for expected accounts receivable credit losses based on our past experience with similar accounts receivable and believe our reserves to be adequate.

We continually monitor and evaluate the carrying amount of our notes receivable in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 114, Accounting by Creditors for Impairment of a Loan An Amendment of FASB Statements No. 5 and 15. It is possible, however, that the accuracy of our estimation process could be materially impacted as the composition of the receivables changes over time. We continually review and refine our estimation process to make it as reactive to these changes as possible. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to accurately estimate credit losses on these balances. It is possible that future events could cause us to make significant adjustments or revisions to these estimates and cause our reported net income to vary significantly from period to period.

*Potential Recognition of Deferred Income* During 1988, we sold the assets of eight long term health care centers to National Health Corporation (ANational@), our administrative general partner at the time of the sale. The resulting profit of \$15,745,000 (and related income tax expense) was deferred and will be amortized into income beginning with the collection of the note receivable (up to \$10,000,000) and the expiration of a line of credit obligation (\$2,000,000). The balance (\$3,745,000) of the profit is being amortized into income on a straight line basis over the 20-year management contract period. \$10,000,000 of the previously deferred income and unrelated deferred income taxes will be recognized as income at the time of and in proportion to the collection of the associated \$10,000,000 note. Additional deferred income of \$2,000,000 will be reported when the company no longer has an obligation to advance the \$2,000,000 working capital loan which obligation was extended until January 20, 2018 with the extension of the management agreement with National to that date. The collection (or alternatively, the offset against certain payables to National) of up to \$10,000,000 of notes receivable would result in the immediate recognition of up to \$10,000,000 of pretax net income. Currently, the notes are due December 31, 2007 and income recognition is expected to occur at that time.

*Guarantees* We guarantee the debt of managed and other long term health care centers (\$3,924,000) and the debt of NHI (\$4,515,000). As of September 30, 2007, our maximum potential loss related to the aforementioned debt guarantees and financial guarantees is \$8,439,000 which is the outstanding balance of our guarantees. It is possible that future events could cause us to make significant adjustments to our estimates and liability under these guarantees and cause our reported net income to vary significantly from period to period.

*Uncertain Tax Positions* NHC continually evaluates for tax related contingencies. Contingencies may arise where tax laws may allow for alternative interpretations or where the timing of recognition of income is subject to judgment. We believe we have adequate provisions for tax contingencies. However, because of uncertainty of

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interpretation by various tax authorities and the possibility that there are issues that have not been recognized by management, we cannot guarantee we have accurately estimated our tax liabilities.

The above listing is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all of our accounting policies. In many cases, the accounting treatment of a particular transaction is specifically dictated by generally accepted accounting principles, with no need for management's judgment in their application. There are also areas in which management's judgment in selecting any available alternative would not produce a materially different result. See our audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto which contain accounting policies and other disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles.

Government Program Financial Changes

Cost containment will continue to be a priority for Federal and State governments for health care services, including the types of services we provide.

*Medicare*

Medicare is uniform nationwide and reimburses nursing centers under a fixed payment methodology named the Skilled Nursing Facility Prospective Payment System (SNF PPS). PPS was instituted as mandated by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. PPS became effective for our nursing centers effective January 1, 1999. PPS is an acuity based classification system that uses nursing and therapy indexes adjusted by geographical wage indexes to calculate per diem rates for each Medicare patient. Payment rates are updated annually and are generally increased each October when the federal fiscal year begins. The acuity classification system is named RUGs (Resource Utilization Groups III).

On July 28, 2005, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule updating the SNF PPS and consolidated billing provisions. The rule updates the per diem payment rates under the SNF PPS for federal fiscal

year (FY) 2006.

The final rule caused a redistribution of payments among providers. This is accomplished by refinements expanding the Resource Utilization Groups (RUGs) from 44 RUG groups to 53 RUG groups and by eliminating temporary rate add ons. The elimination of temporary add ons has always been tied to the long awaited RUG refinement. RUG refinement increases the case mix weight that applies to both nursing and non ancillary therapy ancillary costs. This is a permanent change in the PPS methodology.

Effective October 1, 2006, our PPS rates were increased by 6.2% due to inflation factors (3.1%) and Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA) designations.

Including the 3.1% annual inflation update factor RUG refinement our Medicare payment rates have increased by approximately 16% or \$14,516,764 on a same facility basis in the nine months ended September 30, 2007 compared to the same period in 2006. Our Medicare utilization increased from 17% to 18% (patient days) for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 compared to the same period of 2006.

#### *Medicaid*

Our Medicaid utilization decreased from 55% to 52% (patient days) for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 compared to the same period of 2006.

Tennessee Medicaid rate increases were approximately \$1,712,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2006.

South Carolina Medicaid annual per diem rate increases resulted in additional revenues of approximately \$1,471,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2007.



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Results of Operations

*Three Months Ended September 30, 2007 Compared to Three Months Ended September 30, 2006.*

Results for the three month period ended September 30, 2007 include a 10.3% increase in net revenues and a 41.6% increase in net income compared to the same period in 2006.

Net patient revenues increased \$5,442,000 or 4.2% compared to the same period last year. Medicaid rate changes that became effective October 1, 2006 increased our revenues for the 2007 third quarter by approximately \$1,075,000. Additionally, the completion of construction of bed additions at four facilities (210 beds) added approximately \$2,919,000 in net patient revenues. Finally, improved per diem revenue rates from Medicare, Medicaid and private pay payors and improved census mix increased our third quarter revenues compared to the same quarter last year.

The total census at owned and leased centers for the quarter averaged 93.1% compared to an average of 93.7% for the same quarter a year ago.

Other revenues increased \$9,301,000 or 61.7% in 2007 to \$24,380,000 from \$15,079,000 in 2006. Other revenues for the current quarter include the recognition of a gain of approximately \$10,792,000 on the sale of underdeveloped land located in Charleston, South Carolina. Other revenues also increased \$856,000 due to an increase in the amount of our equity in earnings of an unconsolidated investment (Caris HealthCare, L.P.).

Increases in other revenues were offset in part due to decreases in insurance services (\$1,025,000) and in advisory fees (\$328,000). The decrease in insurance service revenue is caused by a decline in the number of customers being served

for professional liability insurance and workers compensation insurance from our wholly-owned insurance subsidiaries. Revenues from management and accounting services fluctuate from period to period because collections for some customers are not certain of receipt (as described in our critical accounting policies). During the three months ended September 30, 2007, NHC provided management, accounting and financial services (\$772,000) for 28 facilities as compared to 32 facilities during the three months ended September 30, 2006.

Total costs and expenses for the 2007 third quarter increased \$10,775,000 or 8.4% to \$139,240,000 from \$128,465,000. Salaries, wages and benefits, the largest operating costs of this service company, increased \$10,742,000 or 14.8% to \$83,540,000 from \$72,798,000. Other operating expenses decreased \$668,000 or 1.6% to \$40,992,000 for the 2007 period compared to \$41,660,000 in the 2006 period. Rent expense increased \$357,000 to \$10,535,000 compared to \$10,178,000 in the 2006 period. Depreciation and amortization increased \$304,000 or 8.5% to \$3,892,000 from \$3,588,000. Interest costs increased \$40,000 to \$281,000.

Increases in salaries, wages and benefits are due to increased staffing due to the completion of bed additions at four centers (\$1,229,000), increases in the provision for workers compensation and health insurance claims accrued (\$4,058,000) and inflationary wage increases. Increases in other operating costs are due to costs associated with the completed bed additions at four centers (\$2,074,000) and inflationary increases offset in part due to decreases in workers compensation (\$2,735,000).

*Nine Months Ended September 30, 2007 Compared to Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006.*

Results for the nine month period ended September 30, 2007 include an 8.0% increase in net revenues and a 28.0% increase in net income compared to the same period in 2006. Net income increased 2.8% after excluding the consideration of the after tax effect of the South Carolina land sale and the recoveries of a notes receivable previously written down in the current and prior periods.



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Net patient revenues increased \$25,663,000 or 6.8% compared to the same period last year. Medicaid rate changes that became effective October 1, 2006 increased our revenues for the 2007 period by approximately \$3,938,000 of which approximately \$475,000 was attributable to services rendered in the fourth quarter of 2006. The acquisition of our 200 bed long term care facility located in Town and Country, Missouri in March 2006 added approximately \$2,060,000 to net patient revenues. Additionally, the completion of construction of bed additions at four facilities (210 beds) added approximately \$12,970,000 in net patient revenue. Finally, improved per diem revenue rates from Medicare, Medicaid and private payors and improved census mix increased our nine month revenues compared to the same period last year.

The total census at owned and leased centers for the nine months averaged 92.7% compared to an average of 93.9% for the same period a year ago.

Other revenues increased \$7,910,000 or 17.4% in 2007 to \$53,319,000 from \$45,409,000 in 2006. The increase includes the recognition of a gain of approximately \$10,792,000 on the sale of undeveloped land located in Charleston, South Carolina. Other revenues also increased \$1,281,000 due to an increase in the amount of our equity in earnings of an unconsolidated investment (Caris HealthCare, L.P.).

Increases in other revenue were offset in part due to decreases (\$2,331,000) in insurance services revenue. Insurance service revenue decreased due to a decline in the number of customers served for workers compensation and for professional liability insurance from our wholly-owned insurance subsidiaries. Other revenues also decreased due to decreased collection of approximately \$869,000 in management and accounting service fees and \$984,000 in advisory fees. As described in our critical accounting policies, revenues from management and accounting services fluctuate from period to period because collections for some customers are not certain of receipt. During the nine months ended September 30, 2007, NHC provided management, accounting and financial services to 28 facilities compared to 32 facilities during the nine months ended September 30, 2006.

Total costs and expenses for the 2007 nine months increased \$26,036,000 or 6.9% to \$405,682,000 from \$379,646,000. Salaries, wages and benefits, the largest operating costs of this service company, increased \$20,414,000 or 9.2% to \$244,253,000 from \$223,839,000. Other operating expenses increased \$2,678,000 or 2.2% to \$123,753,000 for the 2007 period compared to \$121,075,000 in the 2006 period. Rent expense increased \$736,000 to \$31,544,000 compared to \$30,808,000 in the 2006 period. Depreciation and amortization increased \$1,004,000 or

9.6% to \$11,476,000 from \$10,472,000. Interest costs increased \$90,000 to \$851,000.

Increases in salaries, wages and benefits are due primarily to inflationary wage increases. Costs for benefits were increased by approximately \$4,011,000 by increases in workers' compensation and health insurance claims. Increases in other operating costs are due to inflationary increases offset in part due to decreases in the cost of premiums for workers' compensation (\$1,034,000). In addition, salaries, wages and benefits and other operating expenses increased by \$6,160,000 and \$5,939,000 due to the acquisition of our 200 long term care beds facility in March 2006 and long term bed additions totaling 210 beds at four facilities.

Expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 include recoveries of notes receivable previously written off in the amounts of \$6,195,000 and \$7,309,000. In the prior period, the borrower refinanced existing notes and repaid our note with the proceeds. In the current period, we had a participation in a note receivable that was repaid by the other party in the participation agreement.

#### Liquidity and Capital Resources

##### *Sources and Uses of Funds*

Our primary sources of cash include revenues from the healthcare and senior living facilities we operate, insurance services, management services and accounting services. Our primary uses of cash include salaries, wages and other operating costs of our home office and the facilities we operate, the cost of additions to and acquisitions of real

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property, rent expenses, debt service payments (including principal and interest) and dividend distributions. These sources and uses of cash are reflected in our Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows and are discussed in further detail below. The following is a summary of our sources and uses of cash flows (dollars in thousands):

	Three Months		Three Month		Nine Months		Nine Month	
	Ended		Change		Ended		Change	
	<u>September 30</u>	<u>September 30</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>September 30</u>	<u>September 30</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>%</u>
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
Cash and Cash equivalents at beginning of period	\$67,702	\$66,716	\$986	1.5%	\$50,678	\$60,870	\$(10,192)	16.7%
Cash provided from operating activities	13,270	42,919	(29,649)	(69.1)%	34,784	69,926	(35,142)	50.2%
Cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(2,402)	(57,065)	54,663	95.8%	(1,918)	(74,071)	72,153	97.4%
Cash used in financing activities	<u>(3,223)</u>	<u>(2,293)</u>	<u>(930)</u>	40.6%	<u>(8,197)</u>	<u>(6,448)</u>	<u>(1,749)</u>	27.1%
Cash and cash	<u>\$75,347</u>	<u>\$50,277</u>	<u>\$25,070</u>	49.9%	<u>\$75,347</u>	<u>\$50,277</u>	<u>\$ 25,070</u>	49.9%

equivalents  
at end of  
period

Net cash provided by operating activities during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 totaled \$45,576,000 compared to \$69,926,000 provided in the same period last year. Cash provided by operating activities is composed of net income plus depreciation and increases in accrued liabilities and reserves, deferred income and other non-current liabilities, and decreases in accounts receivable, offset by decreases in restricted cash, deferred income taxes and accrued payroll. Restricted cash is primarily related to professional liability insurance, workers' compensation insurance and health insurance. The reduction in cash provided by operating activities of \$24,350,000 was due in part to a \$34,253,000 decrease in restricted cash in the prior year nine month period compared to a \$4,781,000 increase in restricted cash in the current year nine month period.

Cash flows used in investing activities during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 totaled \$12,710,000 compared to \$74,071,000 used in investing activities in the same period in 2006. Cash used for additions to property and equipment totaled \$11,821,000 in 2007 compared to \$26,210,000 in 2006. Collections of notes receivable generated \$7,195,000 in 2007 compared to \$1,601,000 in 2006. Cash used to purchase marketable securities totaled -0- compared to \$49,613,000 of cash used to purchase marketable securities in 2006. Distributions received from unconsolidated investments totaled \$2,210,000 in 2007 compared to \$151,000 in 2006.

Cash used in financing activities totaled \$8,197,000 in the nine month ended September 30, 2007 compared to \$6,448,000 used in financing activities for the same period in 2006. Cash used for payments of debt totaled \$1,686,000 and dividend payments to shareholders totaled \$7,136,000. In the prior year, cash used for payments of debt totaled \$1,618,000, dividend payments to shareholders totaled \$5,893,000. Tax benefits from exercise of stock options provided cash of \$195,000 in 2007 and \$230,000 in 2006.

At September 30, 2007, our ratio of long-term debt to total capitalization (total debt plus deferred income plus shareholders equity) is 3.5%.

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Table of Contractual Cash Obligations

Our contractual cash obligations for periods subsequent to September 30, 2007 are as follows:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Less than 1 Year</u>	<u>2-3 Years</u>	<u>4-5 Years</u>	<u>After 5 Years</u>
		<i>(in thousands)</i>			
Long term debt principal	\$ 10,962	\$ 962	\$10,000	\$	\$
Long term debt interest	232	232			
Obligation to complete construction	4,416	4,416			
Operating leases	<u>594,814</u>	<u>38,403</u>	<u>76,806</u>	<u>90,877</u>	<u>388,728</u>
Total Contractual Cash Obligations	<u>\$610,424</u>	<u>\$44,013</u>	<u>\$86,806</u>	<u>\$90,877</u>	<u>\$388,728</u>

As discussed in the section ADebt Guarantees@, the \$4,515,000 obligation represents our estimated obligation related to senior secured notes between NHI and certain lending institutions. In addition to the guaranteed debt obligation, we have guaranteed debt obligations of certain other entities totaling approximately \$3,924,000. These guarantees are not included in the table above because we do not anticipate material obligations under these commitments.

Our current cash on hand, marketable securities, short term notes receivable, operating cash flows, and as needed, our borrowing capacity are expected to be adequate to meet these contractual obligations and to finance our operating requirements, growth and development plans.

We started paying quarterly dividends in the second quarter of 2004 and anticipate the continuation of dividend payments as approved quarterly by the Board of Directors.

Guarantees and Contingencies

*Debt Guarantees*

In addition to our primary debt obligations, which are included in our condensed consolidated balance sheet, we have guaranteed the debt obligations of certain other entities. Those guarantees, which are not included as debt obligations in our consolidated financial statements, total \$8,439,000 at September 30, 2007 and include \$3,924,000 of debt of a long term health care center and \$4,515,000 of debt of National Health Investors, Inc. ( NHI ). National Health Corporation (ANational@) and the National Health Corporation Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the AESOP@) are secondary obligors for the \$4,515,000 of debt.

The \$3,924,000 guarantee relates to first mortgage debt obligations of one long term health care center to which we previously provided management or accounting services. This guaranteed indebtedness is secured by first mortgages, pledges of personal property, accounts receivable, marketable securities and, in certain instances, the personal guarantees of the owners of the facility.

The \$4,515,000 of guarantees of debt of NHI relates to senior secured notes held by financial institutions. This debt had been debt of NHC until it was transferred to NHI along with related assets at the inception of NHI in 1991. The total outstanding balance under these senior secured notes is \$5,344,000. Of this obligation, \$829,000 has been included in our debt obligations because we are a direct obligor on this indebtedness. The remaining \$4,515,000, which is not included in our debt obligations because we are not a direct obligor, is due from NHI as primary obligor.

As of September 30, 2007, our maximum potential loss related to the aforementioned debt is \$8,439,000 which is the outstanding balance of our guarantee.

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Debt Cross Defaults

Through a guarantee agreement, our \$829,000 senior secured notes and our \$4,515,000 guarantee described above have cross default provisions with other debt of National and the ESOP. We currently believe that National and the ESOP are in compliance with the terms of their debt agreements.

New Accounting Pronouncements

In February 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 155 Accounting for Certain Hybrid Financial Instruments an amendment of FASB Statements No. 133 and 140 ( FAS 155 ). FAS 155 addresses the following: a) permits fair value remeasurement for any hybrid financial instrument that contains an embedded derivative that otherwise would require bifurcation; b) clarifies which interest only strips are not subject to the requirements of Statement 133; c) establishes a requirement to evaluate interests in securitized financial assets to identify interests that are freestanding derivatives or that are hybrid financial instruments that contain an embedded derivative requiring bifurcation; d) clarifies that concentrations of credit risk in the form of subordination are not embedded derivatives; and e) amends Statement 140 to eliminate the prohibition on a qualifying special purpose entity from holding a derivative financial instrument that pertains to a beneficial interest other than another derivative financial instrument. SFAS 155 is effective for all financial instruments acquired or issued by the Company after January 1, 2007. The adoption of SFAS 155 did not have a significant impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

In March 2006, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 156, Accounting for Servicing of Financial Assets An Amendment of FASB Statement No. 140. This standard amends the guidance in FASB Statement No. 140, Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities. Among other requirements, Statement 156 requires an entity to recognize a servicing asset or servicing liability each time it undertakes an obligation to service a financial asset by entering into a servicing contract in any of the following situations: a) a transfer of the servicer's financial assets that meets the requirements for sale accounting; b) a transfer of the servicer's financial assets to a qualifying special purpose entity in a guaranteed mortgage securitization in which

the transferor retains all of the resulting securities and classifies them as either available-for-sale securities or trading securities in accordance with FASB Statement No. 115, Accounting for Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities; or c) an acquisition or assumption of an obligation to service a financial asset that does not relate to financial assets of the servicer or its consolidated affiliates. Statement 156 became effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2007. The adoption did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements ( SFAS 157 ). SFAS 157 defines fair value, provides a framework for measuring fair value in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, and expands the disclosures required for fair value measurements. SFAS 157 applies to other accounting pronouncements that require fair value measurements; it does not require any new fair value measurements. This statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. We do not expect this statement to have a material effect on our consolidated financial position, operating results or cash flows.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities Including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115 ( SFAS 159 ). SFAS 159 permits entities to choose to measure certain financial assets and liabilities and other eligible items at fair value, which are not otherwise currently required to be measured at fair value. Under SFAS 159, the decision to measure items at fair value is made at specified election dates on an irrevocable instrument by instrument basis. Entities electing the fair value option would be required to recognize changes in fair value in earnings and to expense upfront cost and fees associated with the item for which the fair value option is elected. If we elect the fair value option provided for in this standard, we would adopt SFAS 159 on January 1, 2008. We have not yet determined whether we will elect the option provided for in this standard, or the impact that the elective adoption may have on our consolidated financial position, operating results or cash flows.



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Forward Looking Statements

References throughout this document to the Company include National HealthCare Corporation and its wholly owned subsidiaries. In accordance with the Securities and Exchange Commission's Plain English guidelines, this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q has been written in the first person. In this document, the words We, Our, Ours and Us refer only to National HealthCare Corporation and its wholly owned subsidiaries and not any other person.

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and other information we provide from time to time, contains certain forward looking statements as that term is defined by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements regarding our expected future financial position, results of operations or cash flows, continued performance improvements, ability to service and refinance our debt obligations, ability to finance growth opportunities, ability to control our patient care liability costs, ability to respond to changes in government regulations, ability to execute our three year strategic plan, and similar statements including, without limitations, those containing words such as Believes, Anticipates, Expects, Intends, Estimates, Plans, and other similar expressions are forward looking statements.

Forward looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that may cause our actual results in future periods to differ materially from those projected or contemplated in the forward looking statements as a result of, but not limited to, the following factors:

C

national and local economic conditions, including their effect on the availability and cost of labor, utilities and materials;

C

the effect of government regulations and changes in regulations governing the healthcare industry, including our compliance with such regulations;

C

changes in Medicare and Medicaid payment levels and methodologies and the application of such methodologies by the government and its fiscal intermediaries;

C

liabilities and other claims asserted against us, including patient care liabilities, as well as the resolution of current litigation (see Note 7: Guarantees and Contingencies);

C

the ability of third parties for whom we have guaranteed debt to refinance certain short term debt obligations;

C

the ability to attract and retain qualified personnel;

C

the availability and terms of capital to fund acquisitions and capital improvements;

C

the competitive environment in which we operate;

C

the ability to maintain and increase census levels; and

C

demographic changes.

See the notes to the quarterly financial statements, and AItem 1. Business@ as is found in our 2006 Annual Report on Form 10 K for a discussion of various governmental regulations and other operating factors relating to the healthcare industry and the risk factors inherent in them. This may be found on our web side at [www.nhccare.com](http://www.nhccare.com). You should carefully consider these risks before making any investment in the Company. These risks and uncertainties are not the only ones facing us. There may be additional risks that we do not presently know of or that we currently deem immaterial. If any of the risks actually occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected. In that case, the trading price of our shares of stock could decline, and you may lose all or part of your

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investment. Given these risks and uncertainties, we can give no assurances that these forward looking statements will, in fact, transpire and, therefore, caution investors not to place undue reliance on them.

**Item 3.**

**Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk.**

*Interest Rate Risk*

Our cash and cash equivalents consist of highly liquid investments with an original maturity of less than three months. As a result of the short term nature of our cash instruments, a hypothetical 10% change in interest rates would have no material impact on our future earnings and cash flows related to these instruments. Approximately \$19.0 million of our notes receivable bear interest at fixed interest rates. As the interest rates on these notes receivable are fixed, a hypothetical 10% change in interest rates would have no impact on our future earnings and cash flows related to these instruments. Approximately \$.4 million of our notes receivable bear interest at variable rates (generally at prime plus 2%). Because the interest rates of these instruments are variable, a hypothetical 10% change in interest rates would result in a related increase or decrease in annual interest income of approximately \$4,000. As of September 30, 2007, \$10 million of our long term debt bear interest at fixed interest rates. Because the interest rates of these instruments are fixed, a hypothetical 10% change in interest rates would have no impact on our future earnings and cash flows related to these instruments. The remaining \$1.0 million of our long term debt and debt serviced by other parties bear interest at variable rates. Because the interest rates of these instruments are variable, a hypothetical 10% change in interest rates would result in a related increase or decrease in annual interest expense of approximately \$6,000.

*Equity Price Risk*

We consider our investments in marketable securities as Available for sale securities and unrealized gains and losses are recorded in stockholders' equity in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 115.

The investments in marketable securities are recorded at their fair market value based on quoted market prices. Thus, there is exposure to equity price risk, which is the potential change in fair value due to a change in quoted market price. Hypothetically, a 10% change in quoted market prices would result in a related 10% change in the fair value of our investments in marketable securities.

**Item 4. Controls and Procedures.**

As of September 30, 2007, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including the Chief Executive Officer (ACEO@) and Principal Accounting Officer (APAO@), of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures. Based on that evaluation, the Company's management, including the CEO and PAO, concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of September 30, 2007. There have been no changes in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting during the quarter ended September 30, 2007 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1.

Legal Proceedings.

For a discussion of prior, current and pending litigation of material significance to NHC, please see Note 6 of this Form 10 Q.



NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

September 30, 2007

(unaudited)

Item 1A.

Risk Factors.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2007, there were no material changes to the risk factors that were disclosed in Item 1A of National HealthCare Corporation=s Annual Report on Form 10 K for the year ended December 31, 2006.

Item 2.

Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds. Not applicable

Item 3.

Defaults Upon Senior Securities. None

Item 4.

Submission of Matters to Vote of Security Holders.

(a)

A Special Meeting of Stockholders was held on October 25, 2007.

(b)

Matters voted upon at the meeting were as follows:

PROPOSAL NO. 1: To consider and vote upon a proposal to adopt an amendment to the certificate of incorporation of NHC to increase the maximum number of shares of undesignated preferred stock having a par value of \$.01 per share from 10,000,000 shares to 25,000,000 shares.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
10,311,084	1,789,641	3,731

PROPOSAL NO. 2: To consider and vote upon a proposal to approve the issuance of shares of NHC Series A convertible preferred stock pursuant to the merger agreement.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
10,319,320	1,781,146	3,991

PROPOSAL NO. 3: To approve the postponement or adjournment of the NHC special meeting for the solicitation of additional votes, if necessary.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
10,210,044	1,889,769	4,644

Item 5.

Other Information. None





NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

September 30, 2007

(unaudited)

Item 6.

Exhibits.

(a)

List of exhibits

Exhibit No. Description

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 31.1 | Rule 13a 14(a)/15d 14(a) Certification of Chief Executive Officer  |
| 31.2 | Rule 13a 14(a)/15d 14(a) Certification of Principal Financial Officer                                      |
| 32   | Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 906 by Chief Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer |

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 thereunto duly authorized.

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

(Registrant)

Date November 8, 2007 /s/ Robert G. Adams  
Robert G. Adams  
President  
Chief Executive Officer

Date November 8, 2007 /s/ Donald K. Daniel  
Donald K. Daniel  
Senior Vice President and Controller  
(Principal Financial Officer)