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

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**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

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

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): May 4, 2016 (May 4, 2016)**

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**NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**001-13489**  
(Commission File Number)

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

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

**37130**  
(Zip Code)

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

**Not Applicable**

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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

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

National HealthCare Corporation (the “Company”) today announced that Robert Adams plans to retire as Chief Executive Officer, effective December 31, 2016. Mr. Adams will remain as non-executive Chairman of the Board following his retirement.

**Item 7.01      Regulation FD Disclosure.**

On May 4, 2016, the Company issued a press release announcing Mr. Adam’s retirement as Chief Executive Officer, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

The information in this Item 7.01, including Exhibit 99.1, is being furnished and shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, whether made before or after the date hereof, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing

**Item 9.01.      Financial Statements and Exhibits**

**(d) Exhibits.**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
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<b>99.1</b>	<b>Press Release dated May 4, 2016.</b>
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## SIGNATURES

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

Date: May 4, 2016

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

By: /s/ John K. Lines

Name: John K. Lines

Title: Senior Vice President  
General Counsel