Miller Jeffrey H Form 4 May 02, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Miller Jeffrey H			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol HEALTH CARE REIT INC /DE/ [HCN]					5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)			
(Last) 4500 DORR	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/01/2012				Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify below) below) EVP-Operations & Gen. Counsel				
TOLEDO, O	4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)					6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table	e I - Non-D	erivative	Secur	ities Acq	uired, Disposed of	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		on Date, if	Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)				5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) 6. Ownership Form: Direct Indirect Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)			
Common Stock	05/01/2012			M	762	A	\$ 37	68,200	D		
Common Stock	05/01/2012			M	1,238	A	\$ 40.83	69,438	D		
Common Stock	05/01/2012			S(1)	2,100	D	\$ 56.74	67,338	D		

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

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number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title Derivat Security (Instr. 3	ive Conversion or Exercise		4. 5. Number Transaction Derivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4,		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
			Code V	and 5) (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Option (Right Buy)		05/01/2012	M	762	01/15/2012(2)	01/29/2019	Common	14,287 (2)
Option (Right Buy)		05/01/2012	M	1,238	01/15/2011(4)	01/21/2018	Common	10,113 (4)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Miller Jeffrey H 4500 DORR STREET TOLEDO, OH 43615

EVP-Operations & Gen. Counsel

Signatures

By: Erin C. Ibele Attorney-in-Fact For: Jeffrey H. Miller

05/02/2012

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) The shares covered by this Form 4 have been sold pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 Sales Plan dated September 19, 2011.
- Options for the purchase of 33,813 shares of common stock at \$37.00 per share were granted to Mr. Miller on January 29, 2009, which grant has previously been reported. The partial exercise of these options for the purchase of 19,526 shares has previously been reported. Of the remaining options, options for the purchase of 763 shares vested on January 15, 2012 and options for the purchase of 6,762 shares will vest on January 15 of each of 2013 and 2014.
- (3) The options were granted under the Health Care REIT, Inc. 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan and had no acquisition price.
- (4) Options for the purchase of 18,257 shares of common stock at \$40.83 per share were granted to Mr. Miller on January 21, 2008, which grant has previously been reported. The partial exercise of these options for the purchase of 8,144 shares has previously been reported. Of

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the remaining options, options for the purchase of 2,811 shares vested on January 15, 2011, options for the purchase of 3,651 shares vested on January 15, 2012 and options for the purchase of 3,651 shares will vest on January 15, 2013.

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