DIAZ PAUL J Form 4 April 29, 2005

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

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Expires:

January 31, 2005

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response...

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

Check this box

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)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * DIAZ PAUL J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

KINDRED HEALTHCARE, INC

(Check all applicable)

[KND]

(Last) (First) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)

_X__ Director X_ Officer (give title below)

10% Owner Other (specify

680 SOUTH FOURTH STREET

(Middle)

04/27/2005

below) President and CEO

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Person

LOUISVILLE, KY 40202

(City) (State) (Zip)

(Street)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3)

Stock

Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of Code (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

Amount

5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Securities Form: Direct Indirect Beneficially (D) or Beneficial Indirect (I) Ownership Owned Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported

D

(A)

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) (D) Price

Code V Common 04/27/2005 A

48,332 A \$0 302,921 (1)

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

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

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of onDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount Underlying Securitie (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Sha
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 31.09	04/27/2005		A	52,152	04/27/2006(2)	04/27/2012	Common Stock	52,1
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 31.09	04/27/2005		A	6,432	04/27/2008(3)	04/27/2012	Common Stock	6,43

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
DIAZ PAUL J 680 SOUTH FOURTH STREET LOUISVILLE, KY 40202	X		President and CEO			

Signatures

Paul J. Diaz

**Signature of Reporting Person

O4/28/2005

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).
- These shares represent restricted stock granted to the reporting person. These shares vest in equal annual installments over four years commencing on 4/27/06.
- (2) This option becomes exercisable in the following cumulative installments: 14,646 on 4/27/06, 14,646 on 4/27/07, 11,430 on 4/27/08 and 11,430 on 4/27/09.
- (3) This option becomes exercisable in the following cumulative installments: 3,216 on 4/27/08 and 3,216 on 4/27/09.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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