KLEIN JOHN H Form 4 January 12, 2005

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

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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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

may continue.

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

KLEIN JOHN H

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

X_ Director

below)

KINDRED HEALTHCARE INC [KND]

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/10/2005

10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify

400 KELBY STREET, 10TH **FLOOR**

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line)

(A)

or

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

FORT LEE, NJ 07024

(Instr. 3)

(City) (State) 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

(Zip)

(Month/Day/Year)

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

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

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

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial (I) Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

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)

1. Title of Derivative Conversion 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed

5. Number

6. Date Exercisable and (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction of Derivative Expiration Date

7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities

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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		(Month/Day/Year		(Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Option (Right to Buy) (1)	\$ 27.9	01/10/2005		A	5,000		01/10/2006(2)	01/10/2015	Common Stock	5,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
r g	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
KLEIN JOHN H 400 KELBY STREET 10TH FLOOR FORT LEE, NJ 07024	X						

Signatures

John H. Klein 01/11/2005

**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) This option was granted pursuant to Kindred Healthcare, Inc. 2001 Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors (Amended and Restated).
- (2) This option is exercisable in cumulative equal annual installments over four years commencing on 1/10/06.

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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