BOWEN LANE M Form 4 March 23, 2009

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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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Check this box

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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).

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **BOWEN LANE M** Issuer Symbol KINDRED HEALTHCARE, INC (Check all applicable) [KND] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title _ Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) 680 SOUTH FOURTH STREET 03/20/2009 Exec VP & Pres, HS Div (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting LOUISVILLE, KY 40202 Person

| (- 3) | (, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , | 1 able | e 1 - Non-De | erivative Securities | s Acquirea, Disposea | oi, or Beneficia | ily Ownea |
|------------|---|--------------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 1.Title of | 2. Transaction Date | 2A. Deemed | 3. | 4. Securities | 5. Amount of | 6. Ownership | 7. Nature of |
| Security | (Month/Day/Year) | Execution Date, if | Transactio | onAcquired (A) or | Securities | Form: Direct | Indirect |
| (Instr. 3) | | any | Code | Disposed of (D) | Beneficially | (D) or | Beneficial |
| | | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | Owned | Indirect (I) | Ownership |
| | | | | | Following | (Instr. 4) | (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | (4) | Reported | | |
| | | | | (A) | Transaction(s) | | |
| | | | C = V | or A (D) D | . (Instr. 3 and 4) | | |
| ~ | | | Code V | | rice (moure and 1) | | |
| Common | 03/20/2009 | | A | 7,250 A \$ | 0 45,692 | D | |
| Stock | 0312012007 | | 11 | (1) A ψ | 0 75,072 | D | |

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Demirative Counities Assumed Disposed of an Demoficially Or

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 on Derivative 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) | \$ 15.06 | 03/20/2009 | | A | 5,833 | 03/20/2012(2) | 03/20/2016 | Common Stock | 5,83 |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 15.06 | 03/20/2009 | | A | 11,667 | 03/20/2010(3) | 03/20/2016 | Common Stock | 11,6 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|--|--|
| coporting of the control of the cont | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | |
| BOWEN LANE M | | | Exec VP | | | |
| 680 SOUTH FOURTH STREET | | | & Pres, | | | |
| LOUISVILLE, KY 40202 | | | HS Div | | | |

Signatures

Lane M. Bowen 03/23/2009

**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).
- These shares represent restricted stock granted to the reporting person. These shares vest in approximately equal annual installments over four years commencing on 3/20/10.
- (2) This option becomes fully exercisable on 3/20/12.
- (3) This option becomes exercisable in the following cumulative installments: 5,834 on 3/20/10 and 5,833 on 3/20/11.

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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