BATTAFARANO FRANK J

Form 4

February 25, 2005

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

January 31, Expires: 2005

0.5

OMB APPROVAL

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

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

burden hours per response...

Estimated average

See Instruction

1(b).

(Last)

Stock

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * BATTAFARANO FRANK J

(First)

(Street)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

KINDRED HEALTHCARE INC

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

[KND]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title

(Month/Day/Year)

02/23/2005

Other (specify below) below) Exec VP & Pres, Hospital Div

(Check all applicable)

680 SOUTH FOURTH STREET

(Middle)

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

Person

LOUISVILLE, KY 40202

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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

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

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

(A) Transaction(s) Amount (D)

(Instr. 3 and 4) Price

Code V Common 02/23/2005 A

15,000 A \$0 77,092 (1)

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.

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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number out 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 of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amoun or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 30.42	02/23/2005		A	6,713	02/23/2006(2)	02/23/2015	Common Stock	6,713
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 30.42	02/23/2005		A	3,287	02/23/2008(3)	02/23/2015	Common Stock	3,287

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
• 5	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
BATTAFARANO FRANK J 680 SOUTH FOURTH STREET			Exec VP & Pres, Hospital				
LOUISVILLE, KY 40202			Div				

Signatures

Frank J.

Battafarano 02/24/2005

**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) These shares represent restricted stock granted to the reporting person. These shares vest in equal annual installments over three years commencing on 2/23/06.
- (2) This option becomes exercisable in the following cumulative installments: 3,334 shares on 2/23/06, 3,333 shares on 2/23/07 and 46 shares on 2/23/08.
- (3) This option becomes exercisable in the following cumulative installment: 3,287 shares on 2/23/08.

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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