

HATHORN SAMUEL C  
 Form 4  
 April 25, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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

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. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 HATHORN SAMUEL C

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 NATIONAL BEVERAGE CORP  
 [FIZZ]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 8100 SW 10TH STREET, SUITE 4000  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 04/23/2012

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

PLANTATION, FL 33324

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
				Code V	Amount		
COMMON STOCK	04/23/2012		X	A	\$ 7,200		D
					0.01		

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

**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 of 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)	Amount or Number of Shares
KEEP STOCK OPTION (1)	\$ 0.01	04/23/2012		X	7,200	05/03/2007 05/03/2014	COMMON STOCK	7,200

**Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
HATHORN SAMUEL C 8100 SW 10TH STREET SUITE 4000 PLANTATION, FL 33324	X			

**Signatures**

/s/ SAMUEL C HATHORN  
Date: 04/25/2012

\*\*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) Under the Company's Key Employee Equity Partnership Program ("KEEP"), participants receive a grant equal to 50% of the number of shares of the Company's common stock purchased on the open market. KEEP options are granted at an initial exercise price of 60% of the purchase price of the shares acquired and such price is reduced to the par value of the Company's common stock over a six year vesting period. Reference is made to Exhibit 10.11 of the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended April 30, 2011.

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.