

Dowd Thomas
 Form 4
 September 10, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 Dowd Thomas

(Last) (First) (Middle)

GNC HOLDINGS, INC., 300
 SIXTH AVENUE

(Street)

PITTSBURGH, PA 15222

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 GNC HOLDINGS, INC. [GNC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 09/06/2012

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 EVP, CMO and General Manager

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

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 Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount		
Class A common stock, par value \$0.001 ("Common Stock")	09/06/2012		M		27,956	A	\$ 5
Common Stock	09/06/2012		S		27,956 <u>(1)</u>	D	\$ 40.2869 <u>(2)</u>
					53,848	D	25,892

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

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(9-02)

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

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)	8. Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 5	09/06/2012		M	27,956	(3) 05/04/2017	Common Stock	27,956 (3)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Dowd Thomas GNC HOLDINGS, INC. 300 SIXTH AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA 15222			EVP, CMO and General Manager	

Signatures

/s/ Gavin O'Connor, by power of attorney
09/10/2012
**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) These shares (the "10b5-1 Plan Shares") were sold pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 sales plan adopted by Mr. Dowd on August 7, 2012.
The 10b5-1 Plan Shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$40.25 to \$40.42, inclusive, and the price reported reflects the weighted average price at which the 10b5-1 Plan Shares were sold. Mr. Dowd undertakes to provide to the issuer, any security holder of the issuer or the staff of the Securities Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range set forth above.
- (3) Option granted on May 4, 2007. This option, representing a right to purchase 47,956 shares of Common Stock, vested in five equal installments on May 4, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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