Dowd Thomas Form 4 December 12, 2011

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB 3235-0287 Number:

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Estimated average burden hours per response...

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Check this box

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

(Last)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * **Dowd Thomas**

(First) (Middle)

GNC HOLDINGS, INC., 300 SIXTH AVENUE

(Street)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

GNC HOLDINGS, INC. [GNC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/12/2011

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

EVP, CMO and General Manager

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

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

PITTSBURGH, PA 15222

(City) (State) (Zip)

12/12/2011

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

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)		
				or	(Instr. 3 and 4)		

Code V Amount (D) Price

Class A common stock, par

value \$0.001 ("Common Stock")

4,404 A \$0 $25,892^{(2)}$ D

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 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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative 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	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 27.7	12/12/2011		A	45,596	(3)	12/12/2018	Common Stock	45,596 (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

12/12/2011

**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).

Represents a grant of restricted stock on December 12, 2011 pursuant to the GNC Holdings, Inc. 2011 Stock and Incentive Plan (the

- (1) "Restricted Stock"). The shares of Restricted Stock vest in three installments: 30% on December 12, 2014, 30% on December 12, 2015 and 40% on December 12, 2016.
- (2) Includes the Restricted Stock.
- (3) The option vests in five equal installments on December 12, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

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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