Mercurio Anthony J Form 3 January 09, 2013

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement National Interstate CORP [NATL] Mercurio Anthony J (Month/Day/Year) 01/01/2013 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 3250 INTERSTATE DRIVE (Check all applicable) (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) 10% Owner Director _X_ Form filed by One Reporting _X__ Officer Other Person (give title below) (specify below) RICHFIELD, OHÂ 44286 Form filed by More than One Executive VP & COO Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 2. Amount of Securities 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) D Â Common Shares (\$0.01 par value) 25,024 Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of

information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

 $Table\ II\ -\ Derivative\ Securities\ Beneficially\ Owned\ (\textit{e.g.},\ puts,\ calls,\ warrants,\ options,\ convertible\ securities)$

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security		4. Conversion or Exercise	5. Ownership Form of	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
				(Instr. 4)		Derivative	(Instr. 5)	
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of	Derivative	Security:		
					Security	Direct (D)		
						or Indirect		

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				Shares		(I) (Instr. 5)	
Option (Right to Buy)	01/01/2007(1)	02/08/2016	Common Shares (\$0.01 par	20,000	\$ 20.41	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
1	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Mercurio Anthony J 3250 INTERSTATE DRIVE RICHFIELD Â OHÂ 44286	Â	Â	Executive VP & COO	Â		

Signatures

/s/Anthony J.
Mercurio

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) Options vested 20% per year each January 1, beginning January 1, 2007.

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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