KROGER CO Form 4 April 04, 2014

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

EFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

| Continue | Continue

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * DILLON DAVID B | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol KROGER CO [KR] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | |
|--|------------|--|---|--|--|--|
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction | | (Check an applicable) | | |
| | | | (Month/Day/Year) | X Director 10% Owner | | |
| THE KROGER CO., 1014 VINE STREET | | VINE | 04/03/2014 | X Officer (give title Other (specify below) Chairman of the Board | | |
| | (Street) | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check | | |
| CINCINNATI | , ОН 45202 | | Filed(Month/Day/Year) | Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | |

| | | | | | | • | Cison | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|-----------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|---|
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) Ta | ble I - Non | -Derivative | Secur | ities Acqui | red, Disposed of, o | or Beneficiall | y Owned |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securitie onor Dispose (Instr. 3, 4 | d of (E and 5) (A) or |)) | 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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock | 04/03/2014 | | Code V M | Amount 150,000 | (D) | Price \$ 16.385 | 983,251.9373 | D | |
| Common Stock | 04/03/2014 | | F | 97,888 | D | \$ 45.12 | 885,363.9373 (1) | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 173,413 | I | by Trust/Spouse |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 133,979 | I | by Trust/Family |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

Stock

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

| 5) Date Expiration Title Code V (A) (D) Exercisable Date | 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | nd 7. Title and Am Underlying Sec (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---|---|--|
| Non-Qualified Stock Ontion \$ 16.385 04/03/2014 M 150,000 (2) 05/05/2015 Common Stock Ontion (2) 05/05/2015 Common Stock Ontion (2) 05/05/2015 Common (2) 0 | Non-Qualified | Common |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|--|
| Fg | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | |
| DILLON DAVID B THE KROGER CO. 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202 | X | | Chairman of the Board | | |

Signatures

Stock Option

/s/ David B. Dillon, by Bruce M. Gack, Attorney-in-Fact 04/03/2014

**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) The total amount of securities directly owned by the reporting person includes shares in the Company's employee benefit plans that are deemed to be 'tax-conditioned plans' pursuant to Rule 16b-3, to the extent disclosed on reports received from plan trustees.
- (2) These options were granted under a long-term incentive plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments in whole amounts over a five-year period, at the rate of 20% per year commencing one year from the date of the grant.

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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