#### KROGER CO

Form 4

January 23, 2003

SEC Form 4

## FORM 4

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

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

OMB APPROVAL

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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person\* 2. Issuer Name 4. Statement for 6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) Donnelly, Michael J. and Ticker or Trading (Month/Day/Year to Issuer Symbol (Check all applicable) 01/23/2003 (Last) (First) The Kroger Co. Director \_ 10% Owner (Middle) X Officer (give title below) 1014 Vine Street KR \_ Other (specify below) 5. If Amendment, 3. I.R.S. Identification (Street) Date of Original Description **Senior Vice** Number of Reporting Cincinnati, OH 45202 (Month/Day/Year) President Person, if an entity (voluntary) (City) (State) 7. Individual or Joint/Group (Zip) Filing (Check Applicable Line) X 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. Securit n(A) or Dis (Instr. 3	posed	Of (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following	6. Owner-ship Form: Direct (D)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership			
			Code	V	Amount	A/D	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)				
Common Stock	01/06/2003		F		2,012 (1)	D	\$	74795.338	D				
Common Stock	01/23/2003		Α		25,000 (2)	Α	\$	99795.338	D				

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

L				(e	.g., puis, ca	alis, wai	rants, opti	ions, convertible	securities)			
Ī	1. Title of	2. Conver-	3.	3A.	4.	5.	6. Date	7. Title and	8. Price	9. Number of	10.	11. Na
	Derivative	sion or	Transaction	Deemed	Transactio	nNumbe	rExercisab	e <b>(√DrE</b> o)untof	of	Derivative	Owner-	In
	Security	Exercise	Date	Execution	Code	of	and	Underlying	Derivative	Securities	ship	Ве
	(Instr. 3)	Price of		Date, if			ive Expirati	o <b>8</b> ecurities	Security	Beneficially	Form of	O
ı		Deri-	(Month/	any	(Instr.8)	Secu	ınDiædse(ED)	(Instr. 3 and	(Instr.5)	Owned	Deriv-	(Ir
- 1				-								

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	vative Security	Day/ Year)	(Month/ Day/ Year)		(A) O Dis Of (D)	pos Inst			Dta)y/Year)		Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr.4)	ative Securities: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr.4)		
				Code	>	Α	D	DE	ED	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			

#### **Explanation of Responses:**

directly or indirectly.

- (1) Payment of tax liability associated with restricted stock.
- (2) Restricted stock awarded pursuant to a long-term incentive plan. The restrictions lapse in equal annual installments in whole share amounts over a five-year period, at the rate of one-fifth per year commencing one year from the date of the award.
- The total amount of securities directly owned by the reporting person includes shares in the Company's employee benefit plans which are deemed to be 'tax-conditioned plans' pursuant to Rule 16b-3, to the extent disclosed on reports received from plan trustees.

01/23/2003

By: Date:

/s/ Michael J. Donnelly, by Bruce M. Gack, Attorney-in Fact

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person SEC 1474 (9-02)

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned

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.

<sup>\*</sup> If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

<sup>\*\*</sup> Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).