Form 5					
February 22, 2006					
FORM 5				OMB AF	PROVAL
	ED STATES	S SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE ( Washington, D.C. 20549	COMMISSION	OMB Number: Expires:	3235-0362 January 31,
to Section 16	NNUAL SI	TATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BEN OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES	Estimated a burden hour response	•	
1(b). Filed Form 3 Holdings Section Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported	I				
1. Name and Address of Report DILLON DAVID B	ing Person <u>*</u>	2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol KROGER CO [KR]	5. Relationship of I Issuer	Reporting Pers	on(s) to
(Last) (First)	(Middle)	3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) 01/28/2006	(Check XDirector XOfficer (give		) Owner r (specify
1014 VINE STREET			below) Chairman of	below) f the Board and	I CEO
(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joi (check	int/Group Repo	orting

### CINCINNATI, OHÂ 45202

(Ct-t-)

**KROGER CO** 

\_X\_ Form Filed by One Reporting Person \_\_\_\_ Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned									
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed3.Execution Date, ifTransactionanyCode(Month/Day/Year)(Instr. 8)		Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	611,635.1036 (1)	D	Â		
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	219,100	Ι	by Spouse/Children		
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	54,024	Ι	by Trust/Children		

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially 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. SEC 2270 (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)	Number Expiration Date		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount Underlying Securitie (Instr. 3 and 4)	
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amour Numbe Shares
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 13.4375	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(2)	05/14/2007	Common Stock	30,0
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 13.4375	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	( <u>3)</u>	05/14/2007	Common Stock	30,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 22.2344	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(2)	04/15/2008	Common Stock	35,0
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 22.2344	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	( <u>3)</u>	04/15/2008	Common Stock	35,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 27.1719	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(2)	05/26/2009	Common Stock	50,0
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 27.1719	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(4)	05/26/2009	Common Stock	50,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 16.5938	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(2)	02/10/2010	Common Stock	175,0
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 16.5938	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(5)	02/10/2010	Common Stock	35,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 24.43	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(2)	05/09/2011	Common Stock	35,0
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 24.43	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(6)	05/09/2011	Common Stock	35,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 22.995	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(2)	05/09/2012	Common Stock	70,0
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 22.995	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(7)	05/09/2012	Common Stock	35,0

Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 14.925	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(2)	12/12/2012	Common Stock	210,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 17.31	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(2)	05/06/2014	Common Stock	300,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 16.385	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(2)	05/05/2015	Common Stock	300,0

# **Reporting Owners**

<b>Reporting Owner Name / Address</b>	ress Relationships								
		10% Owner	Officer	Other					
DILLON DAVID B 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202		Â	$\hat{A}$ Chairman of the Board and CEO	Â					
Signatures									
/s/ David B. Dillon 02	/22/2006								

\*\*Signature of Date Reporting Person

# **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 which 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 an option 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 grant.
- (3) These options will vest during the first four years from the date of the grant only if the Company's stock price has achieved a 63% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum of 13% appreciation per annum from the date of grant or 200% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.

(4) These options will vest during the first four years from the date of the grant only if the Company's stock price has achieved a 75% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 15%

appreciation per annum from the date of grant or 252% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.

(5) These options will vest during the first four years from the date of the grant only if the Company's stock price has achieved an 81% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 16% appreciation per annum from the date of grant or 280% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.

(6) These options will vest during the first four years from the date of the grant only if the Company's stock price has achieved a 78% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 15% appreciation per annum from the date of grant or 208% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.

These options will vest during the first four years from the date of the grant only if the Company's stock price has achieved a 55% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 13%

(7) appreciation from the option preci interaction, the options vestionly if the company's stock preciation and annihilding 15% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.

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

#### **Reporting Owners**

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.