KROGER CO Form 4 February 18, 2016

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL OMB

3235-0287 Number: January 31,

Expires: 2005 Estimated average

0.5

burden hours per response...

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

1(b).

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 Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading DONNELLY MICHAEL JOSEPH Issuer Symbol KROGER CO [KR] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title _ Other (specify THE KROGER CO., 1014 VINE 02/17/2016 below) STREET **Executive Vice President** (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line)

CINCINNATI, OH 45202

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-	Derivativ	e Secu	rities Acq	uired, Disposed of,	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)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securion(A) or D (Instr. 3,	ispose 4 and (A) or	d of (D)	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	02/17/2016		M	1,547	A	\$ 14.135	213,596.7193	D	
Common Stock	02/17/2016		S	1,547 (1)	D	\$ 39	212,049.7193 (2)	D	

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

Person

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

Derivative Security (Instr. 3)		Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		Underlying Securitie (Instr. 3 and 4)	
					Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amour or Number of Shares
	n-Qualified ck Option	\$ 14.135	02/17/2016		M	1,547	<u>(3)</u>	06/28/2017	Common Stock	1,54

5. Number

6. Date Exercisable and

7. Title and Amount

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
steporting of their tame, state of	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
DONNELLY MICHAEL JOSEPH THE KROGER CO. 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202			Executive Vice President				
Signatures							

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed

Signatures

1. Title of

/s/ Michael J. Donnelly, by Stacey M. Heiser, 02/18/2016 Attorney-in-Fact

> **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).
- The sale reported in this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on December 16, **(1)** 2015.
- 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.
- 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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