KROGER CO Form 3 April 26, 2017

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 KROGER CO [KR] FIKE CARIN L (Month/Day/Year) 04/26/2017 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) C/O THE KROGER CO., Â 1014 (Check all applicable) VINE STREET (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group 10% Owner Director _X__ Officer Other Filing(Check Applicable Line) (give title below) (specify below) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Vice President and Treasurer Person CINCINNATI, OHÂ 45202 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Â Common Stock D 21,409.5974 (1) Common Stock 3,019 I by Spouse 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

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

currently valid OMB control number.

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 (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of	5. Ownership Form of Derivative	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Derivative Security	Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	06/26/2018	Common Stock	800	\$ 14.305	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	06/25/2019	Common Stock	4,000	\$ 11.17	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	06/24/2020	Common Stock	4,000	\$ 10.08	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	06/23/2021	Common Stock	4,000	\$ 12.37	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	07/12/2022	Common Stock	6,000	\$ 10.98	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	07/15/2023	Common Stock	3,000	\$ 18.88	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	07/15/2024	Common Stock	6,000	\$ 24.665	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	07/15/2025	Common Stock	3,010	\$ 38.33	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	07/13/2026	Common Stock	3,250	\$ 37.48	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	06/24/2020	Common Stock	3,300	\$ 10.08	I	by Spouse
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	06/23/2021	Common Stock	3,300	\$ 12.37	I	by Spouse
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	07/12/2022	Common Stock	4,000	\$ 10.98	I	by Spouse
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	07/15/2023	Common Stock	4,000	\$ 18.88	I	by Spouse
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	07/15/2024	Common Stock	4,000	\$ 24.665	I	by Spouse
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	07/15/2025	Common Stock	2,672	\$ 38.33	I	by Spouse
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	07/13/2026	Common Stock	3,462	\$ 37.48	I	by Spouse

Reporting Owners

Paparting Owner Name	/ Address	Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Reporting Owners 2

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FIKE CARIN L C/O THE KROGER CO. 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OHÂ 45202

Vice President and Treasurer Â

Signatures

/s/ Carin L. Fike 04/26/2017

**Signature of Date Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).

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- ** 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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