KROGER CO Form 4 May 09, 2005

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

Washington, D.C. 20549

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

SECURITIES

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)

1014 VINE STREET

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Dougherty Kevin M

(Street)

(State)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Issuer

KROGER CO [KR]

(Middle) (Last) (First) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Zip)

(Month/Day/Year)

05/05/2005

4. If Amendment, Date Original

below)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person

Director X_ Officer (give title

Form filed by More than One Reporting

D

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

below) Group Vice President

10% Owner

Other (specify

Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

CINCINNATI, OH 45202

(City)

Common

Stock

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3) (Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Beneficial Indirect (I) Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

OMB

Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

(A) or Code V Amount (D)

(Instr. 3 and 4) Price

17,673.6563

Transaction(s)

(1)

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 required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

(9-02)

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exer Expiration D (Month/Day/	ate	7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securit
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Num of Sh
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 16.385	05/05/2005		A	30,000	(2)	05/05/2015	Common Stock	30,0

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Kelationships						
Director 10% Owner Officer	Other						

Dougherty Kevin M 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202

Group Vice President

Signatures

/s/ Kevin M. Dougherty, by Bruce M. Gack, Attorney-in-Fact

05/09/2005

**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 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.

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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