KROGER CO Form 4 September 19, 2016

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB 3235-0287

OMB APPROVAL

Number: January 31, Expires:

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

obligations

Check this box

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 may continue.

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1 Name and Address of Departing De

HJELM CHRISTOPHER T			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol KROGER CO [KR]					Issuer			
(Last) THE KROC STREET	(First) GER CO., 1014	(Middle) VINE	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/16/2016				(Check all applicable) Director 10% OwnerX_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) Executive Vice President				
CINCINNA	(Street) TI, OH 45202			ndment, Da th/Day/Year	Č	1		6. Individual or Jo Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by O Form filed by N Person	•	rson	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table	e I - Non-D	erivative	Secur	ities Acq	uired, Disposed of	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Da (Month/Day/Year	r) Execution	med n Date, if Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3,	ispose 4 and (A) or	d of (D) 5)	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	09/16/2016			F	2,067	D	\$ 31.08	255,553	D		

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

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

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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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. orNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3,		ate	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
					4, and 5)	Date	Expiration		Amount		
				Code V	(A) (D)	Exercisable	Date	Title	Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

HJELM CHRISTOPHER T THE KROGER CO. 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202

Executive Vice President

Signatures

/s/ Christopher T. Hjelm, by Stacey M. Heiser, Attorney-in-Fact

09/19/2016

**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) Payment of tax liability associated with restricted stock.

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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