KROGER CO Form 4 March 13, 2017

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Expires: January 31,

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * SCHLOTMAN J MICHAEL			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
(Last) (Firs	st)	(Middle)	KROGER CO [KR] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)			
THE KROGER CO)., 1014	VINE	(Month/Day/Year) 03/09/2017	Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) Executive Vice President			
(Stre	eet)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person			
CINCINNATI, OH	45202	(Tim)		Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-l	Derivative	e Secu	rities Aco	quired, Disposed of,	or Beneficial	ly 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	ed 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	03/09/2017		A	6,900	A	\$ 0	329,187.0992	D	
Common Stock	03/09/2017		F	2,368 (1)	D	\$ 28.83	326,819.0992 (2)	D	

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

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SEC 1474

(9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	4. Transactio		6. Date Exercises Expiration D	ate	7. Title a	of	8. Price of Derivative	9. Nu Deriv
Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of		any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	of Derivative	(Month/Day/ e	i cai j	Underlyi Securitie	_	Security (Instr. 5)	Secur Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr. 3	and 4)		Owne
	Security				Acquired (A) or						Follo Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D) (Instr. 3,						(Instr
					4, and 5)						
								A	mount		
						Date	Expiration	or Title N	r Iumber		
					(4)	Exercisable	Date	of	f		
				Code V	(A) (D)			Sl	hares		

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Officer Other Director 10% Owner

SCHLOTMAN J MICHAEL THE KROGER CO. **1014 VINE STREET** CINCINNATI, OH 45202

Executive Vice President

Signatures

/s/ J. Michael Schlotman, by Stacey M. Heiser, Attorney-in-Fact

03/13/2017

**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 share award.
- The total amount of securities directly owned by the reporting person includes shares in the Company's employee benefit plans that are **(2)** deemed to be 'tax-conditioned plans' pursuant to Rule 16b-3, to the extent disclosed on reports received from plan trustees.

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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