HUGHES DAVID H

Form 4

September 23, 2005

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

SECURITIES

OMB

OMB APPROVAL

Number:

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

response...

subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

if no longer

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

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

HUGHES DAVID H

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

[DRI]

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

(Month/Day/Year) 09/21/2005

(Check all applicable) 10% Owner

X_ Director Officer (give title Other (specify below)

5900 LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE, P.O. BOX 593330

(Street)

(Zip)

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 Form filed by More than One Reporting

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

ORLANDO, FL 32859-3330

(State)

(City)

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 (D) or Owned Following Reported

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

(A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4)

Price Code V Amount (D)

Common 09/21/2005 \$0 A 3,483 Α 13,042 D

By David Common Ι 7,500 H. Hughes Stock Trust

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

1

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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 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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number proof Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 28.715	09/21/2005		A	3,000	09/21/2006	09/21/2015	Common Stock	3,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
reporting owner name / namess	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
HUGHES DAVID H 5900 LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE P.O. BOX 593330 ORLANDO, FL 32859-3330	X					

Signatures

Douglas E. Wentz, Attorney-in-fact for HUGHES, DAVID H., 5900 Lake Ellenor Drive, P.O. Box 593330, Orlando, FL 32859-3330

09/23/2005

**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).

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.

Reporting Owners 2