

DEFRANCO JAMES
Form 4
December 11, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN 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 Person *
DEFRANCO JAMES

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORP [DISH]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
9601 S. MERIDIAN BLVD.
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
12/07/2006

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
Executive Vice President

ENGLEWOOD, CO 80112
(City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

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

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially 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. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Class A Common Stock	12/07/2006		S(1)		5,000	D	\$ 37.32
Class A Common Stock	12/07/2006		S(1)		10,000	D	\$ 37.35
Class A Common Stock	12/07/2006		S(1)		5,000	D	\$ 37.44
Class A Common	12/08/2006		S(1)		971	D	\$ 37

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Stock								
Class A Common Stock	12/08/2006	<u>S⁽¹⁾</u>	330	D	\$ 37.01	4,471,226	D	
Class A Common Stock	12/08/2006	<u>S⁽¹⁾</u>	1,770	D	\$ 37.02	4,469,456	D	
Class A Common Stock	12/08/2006	<u>S⁽¹⁾</u>	672	D	\$ 37.03	4,468,784	D	
Class A Common Stock	12/08/2006	<u>S⁽¹⁾</u>	2,428	D	\$ 37.04	4,466,356	D	
Class A Common Stock	12/08/2006	<u>S⁽¹⁾</u>	400	D	\$ 37.05	4,465,956	D	
Class A Common Stock	12/08/2006	<u>S⁽¹⁾</u>	1,958	D	\$ 37.06	4,463,998	D	
Class A Common Stock	12/08/2006	<u>S⁽¹⁾</u>	400	D	\$ 37.07	4,463,598	D	
Class A Common Stock	12/08/2006	<u>S⁽¹⁾</u>	471	D	\$ 37.09	4,463,127	D	
Class A Common Stock	12/08/2006	<u>S⁽¹⁾</u>	300	D	\$ 37.1	4,463,827	D	
Class A Common Stock	12/08/2006	<u>S⁽¹⁾</u>	300	D	\$ 37.11	4,462,527	D	
Class A Common Stock						50,000	I	<u>I⁽²⁾</u>
Class A Common Stock						8,183	I	<u>I⁽³⁾</u>
Class A Common Stock						2,250,000	I	<u>I⁽⁴⁾</u>
Class A Common Stock						18,412	I	<u>I⁽⁵⁾</u>

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

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(9-02)

**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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of 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)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 5)
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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
DEFRANCO JAMES 9601 S. MERIDIAN BLVD. ENGLEWOOD, CO 80112	X		Executive Vice President	

Signatures

/s/ James DeFranco, by Robert Rehg, his Attorney in Fact
 12/11/2006
 **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 transactions reported on this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan.
- (2) The shares are held by the reporting person in an irrevocable trust for the benefit of the reporting person's minor children and grandchildren. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares.
- (3) The shares are being held by the reporting person as custodian for his minor children.
- (4) The shares are held by DeFranco Investments Co., Ltd., a general partnership, of which the reporting person is sole general partner.
- (5) By 401(k).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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