KROGER CO Form 4 March 11, 2013

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

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OMB APPROVAL

response...

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

may continue.

See Instruction

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).

Common

Stock

03/08/2013

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **COVERT GEOFFREY J** Issuer Symbol KROGER CO [KR] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify THE KROGER CO., 1014 VINE 03/08/2013 below) below) STREET Senior Vice President (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting CINCINNATI, OH 45202 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Securities Ownership Indirect (Instr. 3) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Beneficially Form: Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) Owned Following Direct (D) Ownership (Instr. 8) Reported or Indirect (Instr. 4)

Code V Amount

F

1,305

(1)

(A)

or

(D)

D

Price

31.17

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 (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Transaction(s)

(Instr. 3 and 4)

113,407.3744

(2)

(Instr. 4)

D

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	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)			ate	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	nt of lying ities	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene
	Derivative Security				Securities Acquired			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Owne Follo
					(A) or Disposed						Repo Trans
					of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)						(Instr
					4, and 3)				Amount		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	or Number of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Director 10% Owner Officer Other

COVERT GEOFFREY J THE KROGER CO. 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202

Senior Vice President

Signatures

/s/ Geoffrey J. Covert, by Bruce M. Gack, Attorney-in-Fact

03/11/2013

**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.
- The total amount of securities directly owned by the reporting person includes shares in the Company's employee benefit plans that are 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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