KROGER CO Form 4

December 07, 2006

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:

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

Issuer

Persons who respond to the collection of

information contained in this form are not

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

KROGER CO [KR]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

Symbol

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

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

BECKER DONALD E

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

(First)

(Middle)

| 1014 VINE STREET | | (Month/Day/Year) 12/06/2006 | | | | Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below) Executive Vice President | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|---|---|--|---|--|
| | | | endment, Date Original | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check | | | |
| Filed(Mo | | | onth/Day/Year) | | | | Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | ly Owned | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transacti Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securit or(A) or Di (Instr. 3, | sposed | d 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 | 12/06/2006 | | M | 18,000 | A | \$ 13.44 | 131,698.4998 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 12/06/2006 | | F | 13,430 | D | \$ 23.28 | 118,268.4998 (1) | D | | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 10,228 | I | by Spouse | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 1,050 | I | by Children | |

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 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 orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exerc Expiration D (Month/Day/ | ate | 7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and | Securit |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--------------------|---|---------------------------|
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amo or Num of Sh |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 13.44 | 12/06/2006 | | M | 18,000 | (2) | 05/15/2007 | Common Stock | 18,0 |

Reporting Owners

| Penerting Owner Name / Address | Relationships |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Ranarting Hwnar Nama / Address | |

10% Owner Officer Other Director

BECKER DONALD E 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202

Executive Vice President

Signatures

/s/ Donald E. Becker, by Bruce M. Gack, Attorney-in-Fact

12/07/2006

**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).
- 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.
- These options were granted under a long-term incentive plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments in whole amounts over a five-year period, at the rate of 20% per year commencing one year from the date of the grant.

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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