KROGER CO Form 4

December 29, 2004

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

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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

may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(City)

(State)

(Zin)

(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 DILLON DAVID B Issuer Symbol KROGER CO [KR] (Check all applicable) (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) _X__ Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title _ Other (specify **1014 VINE STREET** 12/28/2004 below) Chairman of the Board and CEO (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) Tal	ble I - N	Non-	-Derivativ	e Secu	urities	Acquired, Dispose	d of, or Bene	ficially Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transa Code (Instr.		4. Securion Acquired Disposed (Instr. 3,	(A) o 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	12/28/2004		G	V	9,547	D	\$0	625,341.9243 (1)	D	
Common Stock	12/28/2004		G	V	450	A	\$0	224,650	I	by spouse/children
Common Stock								54,024	Ι	by trust/children

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

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number.

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

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Titl	le and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	ınt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	rlying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Secur	ities	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Own
	Security				Acquired						Follo
	·				(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						`
					4, and 5)						
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration		or		
						Exercisable Date	Title Number				
						Lacroisdoic	Dute		of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
FB	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
DILLON DAVID B 1014 VINE STREET	X		Chairman of the Board and CEO				
CINCINNATI, OH 45202							

Signatures

/s/ David B. Dillon, by Bruce M. Gack, Attorney-in-Fact

12/29/2004

**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 total amount of securities directly owned by the reporting person includes shares in the Company's employee benefit plans which 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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