Nielsen James Leroy Form 4 March 14, 2018

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB

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Washington, D.C. 20549

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES** Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

obligations 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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

(First)

(State)

Nielsen James Leroy

(Last)

(City)

111

(Middle)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc. [SFM]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 03/12/2018

5455 EAST HIGH STREET, SUITE

Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify

below) President & COO

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

Applicable Line)

Issuer

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

PHOENIX, AZ 85054

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3)

(Zip)

(Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

(A)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)

(D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)

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

Common Stock, par

share

value \$0.001 per

03/12/2018

 $S^{(1)}$

1,933 D

Code V Amount (D)

Price

145,450 (2)

(Instr. 3 and 4)

D

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

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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	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exer	cisable and	7. Title	and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	TransactionNumber		Expiration D	ate	Amount of		Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Underly	ing	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	B) Derivative			Securities		(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr. 3	and 4)		Owne
	Security				Acquired					Follo	
	(A) or Disposed									Repo	
									Trans		
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3, 4, and 5)						
								Δ	mount		
						Date Expiratio		Title N	ı Iumber		
						Exercisable	Date	01			
				Code V	(A) (D)				hares		

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Officer Other Director 10% Owner

Nielsen James Leroy 5455 EAST HIGH STREET SUITE 111 PHOENIX, AZ 85054

President & COO

Signatures

/s/ Brandon F. Lombardi, Attorney-in-Fact for James L. Nielsen

03/14/2018

**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).
- This transaction was a broker-assisted sale of shares of common stock to satisfy the withholding tax liability incurred upon the vesting of (1) restricted stock units, as mandated by the Issuer's election under its equity incentive plan documents, and does not represent a discretionary trade by the reporting person.
 - Includes 28,670 shares of common stock, 80,839 restricted shares and 35,941 performance share awards. Each restricted share and performance share award represents the right to receive, upon vesting, one share of common stock. 2,601 restricted shares will vest on June 30, 2018, 53,353 will vest annually over two years on March 3, 2019 and 2020, and 24,885 will vest over three years, with one-third
- vesting on March 5, 2019; one-third vesting on March 5, 2020; and the remaining one-third vesting on March 5, 2021. The performance shares will vest annually over two years on March 3, 2019 and 2020. All such vests assume continued employment through the applicable

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