KROGER CO Form 4 July 13, 2017

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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obligations may continue. See Instruction

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(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading HJELM CHRISTOPHER T 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 07/12/2017 below) STREET **Executive 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)

(City)	(State) (Table Table	e I - Non-D	erivative Securiti	ies Acq	uired, Disposed o	of, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securities Acq	quired	5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactio	on(A) or Disposed	of	Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	(D)		Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5)	Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership
						Following	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)
				(4)		Reported		
				(A)		Transaction(s)		
			Code V	or Amount (D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	07/12/2017		F	()	\$ 22.8	223,267	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)

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1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		4. Transactio	5. orNumber	6. Date Exerc Expiration D		7. Title at Amount of		8. Price of Derivative	9. Nu Deriv
Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(monda, Day, Teal)	(Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/		Underlyin Securities (Instr. 3 a	ng s	Security (Instr. 5)	Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	or Title Nu of	nount umber uares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

HJELM CHRISTOPHER T THE KROGER CO. 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202

Executive Vice President

Signatures

/s/ Christopher T. Hjelm, by Stacey M. Heiser, Attorney-in-Fact

07/13/2017

**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.

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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