KROGER CO Form 4 April 24, 2017

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

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

Check this box

Form 5 obligations may continue.

See Instruction

Filed problem 17

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 * VAN OFLEN MARY ELIZABETH		_	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol KROGER CO [KR]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)		
			(Month/Day/Year)	Director 10% Owner		
THE KROGER STREET	CO., 1014	VINE	04/21/2017	_X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) Vice President & Controller		
	(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		
CINCINNATI,	OH 45202			Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-l	Derivative	Secu	rities Acqu	ired, Disposed of	, or Beneficial	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securi on(A) or D (Instr. 3,	ispose 4 and (A) or	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	04/21/2017		M	8,000	A	\$ 14.305	65,563.9385	D	
Common Stock	04/21/2017		S	2,400	D	\$ 30.04	63,163.9385	D	
Common Stock	04/21/2017		S	5,600	D	\$ 30.045	57,563.9385 (1)	D	

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)

Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	mof Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		Underlying Securitie (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	,	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Shares
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 14.305	04/21/2017		M	8,000	<u>(2)</u>	06/26/2018	Common Stock	8,00

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

VAN OFLEN MARY ELIZABETH THE KROGER CO. 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202

Vice President & Controller

5. Number

6. Date Exercisable and

7. Title and Amount

Signatures

1. Title of

/s/ Mary Elizabeth Van Oflen, by Stacey M. Heiser, Attorney-in-Fact

04/24/2017

**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).
- Between January 1, 2017 and March 31, 2017, the reporting person acquired 91.4514 shares of Kroger common stock in the Company's employee benefit plans, based on information from plan trustees. 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.
- (2) 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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