KROGER CO

Form 5

February 09, 2012

#### **OMB APPROVAL** FORM 5 **OMB**

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

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

2005 Estimated average burden hours per response... 1.0

Number:

Expires:

3235-0362

January 31,

See Instruction Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 1(b). Form 3 Holdings Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section Reported 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Form 4

Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * DILLON DAVID B			2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
(Last)	(First)	KROGER CO [KR]  (Middle) 3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year En		(Check all applicable)			
			(Month/Day/Year) 01/28/2012	X Director 10% OwnerX Officer (give title Other (specify			
THE KROGER CO., 1014 VINE STREET				below) below) Chairman of the Board and CEO			
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting			
				(check applicable line)			

#### CINCINNATI, OHÂ 45202

\_X\_ Form Filed by One Reporting Person Form Filed by More than One Reporting

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially 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. Securit Acquired Disposed (Instr. 3,	(A) o of (D	)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	631,284.0268 (1) (2)	D	Â
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	87,618	I	by Spouse
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	18,008	I	by Trust/Children
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	173,413	I	by Trust/Spouse

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

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SEC 2270 (9-02)

# 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 Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)			ate	7. Title and Amount Underlying Securitie (Instr. 3 and 4)	
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amour Numbe Shares
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 22.995	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(3)	05/09/2012	Common Stock	35,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 22.995	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(4)	05/09/2012	Common Stock	70,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 14.925	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(4)	12/12/2012	Common Stock	210,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 17.31	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(4)	05/06/2014	Common Stock	300,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 16.385	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(4)	05/05/2015	Common Stock	300,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 19.94	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(4)	05/04/2016	Common Stock	240,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 28.27	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(4)	06/28/2017	Common Stock	220,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 28.61	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(4)	06/26/2018	Common Stock	225,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 22.34	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(4)	06/25/2019	Common Stock	225,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 20.16	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(4)	06/24/2020	Common Stock	230,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 24.74	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(4)	06/23/2021	Common Stock	283,6

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## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

DILLON DAVID B

THE KROGER CO.

1014 VINE STREET

 X Â Chairman of the Board and CEO Â

CINCINNATI, OHÂ 45202

## **Signatures**

/s/ David B.
Dillon
02/09/2012

\*\*Signature of Date
Reporting Person

## **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 29, 2011 and January 28, 2012, the reporting person acquired 2,158.7827 shares of Kroger common stock in the (1) 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 by plan trustees.
- (2) 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 will vest during the first four years from the date of the grant only if the Company's stock price has achieved a 55% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 13%
- appreciation per annum from the date of grant or 185% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.
- (4) 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 provided 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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