**KROGER CO** 

Form 4

December 05, 2012

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

OMB

**OMB APPROVAL** 

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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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Ad Williams R. I		ting Person *	2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> 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			
			(Month/Day/Year)	Director 10% Owner		
1014 VINE STREET  (Street)			12/04/2012	_X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)		
				Senior Vice President		
			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)		
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)			
CINCINNAT	TI, OH 45202	2		_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

#### (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired (A) 5. Amount of 6. 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction Disposed of (D) Securities Ownership Indirect (Instr. 3) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Code Beneficially Form: Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned Following Direct (D) Ownership Reported or Indirect (Instr. 4) (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) (Instr. 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common 12/04/2012 M 30,000 Α \$ 17.31 119,874.8587 D Stock Common 12/04/2012 30,000 M 149,874.8587 D 16.385 Stock Common 12/04/2012 S 30,000 D 26.724 119,874.8587 D Stock (1) \$ Common 12/04/2012 S 30,000 D 26.725 89,874.8587 D Stock (2)

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

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SEC 1474 (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. 5. Number of TransactionDerivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amour Underlying Securit (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Num of Sh
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 17.31	12/04/2012		M	30,000	(3)	05/06/2014	Common Stock	30,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 16.385	12/04/2012		M	30,000	(3)	05/05/2015	Common Stock	30,0

## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Williams R. Pete 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202

Senior Vice President

## **Signatures**

/s/ R. Pete Williams, by Bruce M. Gack, Attorney-in-Fact

12/05/2012

\*\*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).
- The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$26.57 to \$26.87, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to The Kroger Co., any security holder of The Kroger Co., or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range set forth above.
- (2) The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$26.58 to \$26.87, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to The Kroger Co., any security holder of The Kroger Co., or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within

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the range set forth above.

(3) 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.