KROGER CO

Form 5

February 27, 2009

FORM 5

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0362 Number: January 31,

no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Check this box if

Expires: 2005 Estimated average

1.0

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

burden hours per response...

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 * SCHLOTMAN J MICHAEL			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol KROGER CO [KR]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) 01/31/2009	(Check all applicable) Director 10% OwnerX Officer (give title Other (specif below) Senior Vice President			
	(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 Person

(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. Securi Acquired Disposed (Instr. 3,	l (A) o l 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	92,936.599 (1) (2)	D	Â
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	2,805	I	by Children

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

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SEC 2270 (9-02)

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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)		vative rities nired or osed o) r. 3,	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount Underlying Securitie (Instr. 3 and 4)	
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amour or Number of Shar
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 27.1719	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(3)	05/27/2009	Common Stock	10,00
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 16.5938	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(4)	02/11/2010	Common Stock	10,00
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 24.43	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(5)	05/10/2011	Common Stock	10,00
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 22.995	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(6)	05/09/2012	Common Stock	10,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 27.1719	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(7)	05/27/2009	Common Stock	10,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 24.43	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(7)	05/10/2011	Common Stock	10,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 22.995	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(7)	05/09/2012	Common Stock	20,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 14.925	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(7)	12/12/2012	Common Stock	60,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 17.31	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(7)	05/06/2014	Common Stock	40,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 16.385	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(7)	05/05/2015	Common Stock	40,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 19.94	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(7)	05/04/2016	Common Stock	20,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 28.27	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(7)	06/28/2017	Common Stock	20,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 28.61	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(7)	06/26/2018	Common Stock	20,00

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Â

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SCHLOTMAN J MICHAEL 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OHÂ 45202

Â Senior Vice President Â

Signatures

/s/ J. Michael 02/27/2009 Schlotman

**Signature of Reporting Date
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 February 3, 2008 and January 31, 2009, the reporting person acquired 2,050.7962 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 75% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 15% appreciation per annum from the date of grant or 252% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.
- These options will vest during the first four years from the date of the grant only if the Company's stock price has achieved an 81% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 16% appreciation per annum from the date of grant or 280% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.
- 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 78% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 15% appreciation per annum from the date of grant or 208% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.
- 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.
- (7) 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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