KROGER CO Form 4 June 27, 2012

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Washington, D.C. 20549

January 31, Expires: 2005

SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 5 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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * HELDMAN PAUL W			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol KROGER CO [KR]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)			
			(Month/Day/Year)	Director 10% Owner			
THE KROGER CO., 1014 VINE STREET			06/25/2012	_X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)			
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
CINCINNATI, OH 45202			Filed(Month/Day/Year)				

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-	Derivative	Secu	rities Acc	quired, 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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securion(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	06/25/2012		F	1,052 (1)	D	\$ 22.69	317,921.4828	D	
Common Stock	06/26/2012		F	6,098 (1)	D	\$ 22.54	311,823.4828 (2)	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)

1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	4. Transactio		6. Date Exercises Expiration D	ate	7. Title a	of	8. Price of Derivative	9. Nu Deriv
Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of		any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	of Derivative	(Month/Day/ e	i cai j	Underlyi Securitie	_	Security (Instr. 5)	Secur Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr. 3	and 4)		Owne
	Security				Acquired (A) or						Follo Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D) (Instr. 3,						(Instr
					4, and 5)						
								A	mount		
						Date	Expiration	or Title N	r Iumber		
					(4)	Exercisable	Date	of	f		
				Code V	(A) (D)			Sl	hares		

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Officer Other Director 10% Owner

HELDMAN PAUL W THE KROGER CO. **1014 VINE STREET** CINCINNATI, OH 45202

Executive Vice President

Signatures

/s/ Paul W. 06/27/2012 Heldman

**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).
- Payment of tax liability associated with restricted stock.
- 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.

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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