Sharp Erin S Form 4 March 18, 2019

## FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

OMB Number:

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response...

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

Check this box

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 \* 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Sharp Erin S Issuer Symbol KROGER CO [KR] (Check all applicable) (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner Other (specify X\_ Officer (give title **1014 VINE STREET** 03/14/2019 below) below) Group Vice President (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 Form filed by More than One Reporting CINCINNATI, OH 45202 Person

| (City)                               | (State)                                 | (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned |  |                                   |        |             |   |  |   |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|--------|-------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| 1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year)                            | 3.<br>Transactic<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securit or(A) or Di (Instr. 3, | sposed | d of (D)    | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |  |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 03/14/2019                              |  | A                                      | 12,122<br>(1)                     | A      | \$ 0        | 109,259.6031  | D  |   |  |  |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 03/15/2019                              |  | A                                      | 6,239                             | A      | \$ 0        | 115,498.6031  | D  |   |  |  |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 03/15/2019                              |  | F                                      | 2,945<br>(2)                      | D      | \$<br>24.75 | 112,553.6031<br>(3)   | 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<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transactic<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number of orDerivative Securities 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<br>Exercisable                                      | Expiration<br>Date | Title  | Amo<br>or<br>Num<br>of Sh |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option                       | \$ 24.75  | 03/14/2019                              |   | A                                      | 33,168  | <u>(4)</u>   | 03/14/2029         | Common<br>Stock  | 33,1                      |

## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Sharp Erin S 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202

**Group Vice President** 

## **Signatures**

/s/ Erin S. Sharp, by Stacey M. Heiser, Attorney-in-Fact

03/18/2019

\*\*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).
- (1) Restricted stock awarded pursuant to a long-term incentive plan of The Kroger Co. The restrictions on these shares lapse in equal annual installments over a four-year period, at the rate of 25% per year commencing one year from the date of the award.
- (2) Payment of tax liability associated with share award.
- Between July 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018, the reporting person acquired 40.352 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.
- (4) These options were granted under a long-term incentive plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments over a four-year period, at the rate of 25% 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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