Clark Robert W Form 5 February 20, 2018

OMB APPROVAL FORM 5 **OMB** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION 3235-0362 Number: Washington, D.C. 20549 Check this box if January 31, Expires: no longer subject 2005 to Section 16. Estimated average ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL Form 4 or Form burden hours per 5 obligations OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES response... 1.0 may continue. 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 * 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer Clark Robert W Symbol KROGER CO [KR] (Check all applicable) 3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Last) (First) (Middle) (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner Other (specify X _ Officer (give title 02/03/2018 below) below) THE KROGER CO., Â 1014 VINE Senior Vice President **STREET** (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting Filed(Month/Day/Year) (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 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. 7. Nature of Transaction Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Acquired (A) or Securities Ownership Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially Form: Direct Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned at end of (D) or Ownership (Instr. 8) Issuer's Fiscal Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) (A) Year (Instr. 4) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Amount (D) Price Common 117,440.446 Â Â 12/01/2017 G 2,340 D \$0 D Stock (1) Persons who respond to the collection of information Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of **SEC 2270** securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. contained in this form are not required to respond unless (9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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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) | | | 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 Numbe Shares |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 11.17 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 06/25/2019 | Common Stock | 14,5 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 10.08 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 06/24/2020 | Common Stock | 14,5 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 10.08 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 06/24/2020 | Common Stock | 7,00 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 10.94 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 09/16/2020 | Common Stock | 7,00 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 12.37 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 06/23/2021 | Common Stock | 14,5 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 12.37 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 06/23/2021 | Common Stock | 8,00 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 11.76 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 12/08/2021 | Common Stock | 10,0 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 10.98 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 07/12/2022 | Common Stock | 16,0 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 15.75 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (3) | 03/14/2023 | Common Stock | 20,0 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 15.75 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 03/14/2023 | Common Stock | 5,00 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 18.88 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 07/15/2023 | Common Stock | 30,0 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 24.665 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 07/15/2024 | Common Stock | 30,0 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 38.33 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 07/15/2025 | Common Stock | 29,9 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 37.48 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 07/13/2026 | Common Stock | 57,0 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 22.92 | Â | Â | Â | Â | Â | (2) | 07/13/2027 | Common Stock | 105,0 |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Clark Robert W

THE KROGER CO.
1014 VINE STREET

CINCINNATI, OHÂ 45202

Signatures

/s/ Robert W.
Clark

**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) 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.
- (2) These options were granted under a long-term incentive plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments over a five-year period, at the rate of 20% per year commencing one year from the date of the grant.
- These options were granted under an option plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments in whole share amounts over a (3) three-year period, at the rate of one-third per year commencing one year after the date of grant, with the remainder vesting three years from the date of 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.

Reporting Owners 3