KROGER CO Form 3 May 27, 2014

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement KROGER CO [KR] Wheatley Christine S (Month/Day/Year) 05/23/2014 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) THE KROGER CO., Â 1014 (Check all applicable) VINE STREET (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group 10% Owner Director _X__ Officer Other Filing(Check Applicable Line) (give title below) (specify below) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Group Vice President Person CINCINNATI, OHÂ 45202 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Â Common Stock D 9,131 Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a

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

currently valid OMB control number.

1. Title of Derivative Security 2. Date Exercisable and 3. Title and Amount of 5. 6. Nature of Indirect (Instr. 4) **Expiration Date** Securities Underlying Conversion Ownership Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) **Derivative Security** or Exercise Form of Ownership (Instr. 4) Price of Derivative (Instr. 5) Derivative Security: Title Direct (D) Security

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date		Amount or Number of Shares		or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(1)	03/13/2018	Common Stock	1,000	\$ 25	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	06/25/2019	Common Stock	750	\$ 22.34	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	06/24/2020	Common Stock	1,250	\$ 20.16	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	06/24/2020	Common Stock	750	\$ 20.16	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	06/23/2021	Common Stock	2,000	\$ 24.74	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	07/12/2022	Common Stock	4,000	\$ 21.96	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	12/06/2022	Common Stock	2,000	\$ 26.9	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(2)	07/15/2023	Common Stock	6,000	\$ 37.76	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
• 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
Wheatley Christine S THE KROGER CO. 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202	Â	Â	Group Vice President	Â			

Signatures

/s/ Christine S.
Wheatley

**Signature of Reporting

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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).
- These options were granted under an option plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments in whole share amounts over a (1) 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.
- (2) 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.

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