#### BEYER ROBERT D

Form 4

September 12, 2012

### FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

OMB APPROVAL

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 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 * BEYER ROBERT D |          |          | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading<br>Symbol<br>KROGER CO [KR] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  (Check all applicable)                             |  |  |
|--|----------|----------|---|--|--|--|
| (Last)   | (First)  | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction   | (Check an appreciate)  |  |  |
| C/O THE KROGER CO.,, 1014<br>VINE STREET                 |          | 1014     | (Month/Day/Year)<br>09/11/2012  | X_ Director 10% Owner<br>Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)                            |  |  |
|  | (Street) |          | 4. If Amendment, Date Original  | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  |  |  |
| CINCINNATI, OH 45202                                     |          |          | Filed(Month/Day/Year)   | Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |  |  |
| (City)   | (State)  | (Zip)    | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acq                                 | quired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned   |  |  |

| 1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securion(A) or D (Instr. 3, | ispose<br>4 and<br>(A) | d of (D)    | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--|--|---|
|                                      |                                      |   | Code V                                  | Amount                         | or<br>(D)              | Price       | (Instr. 3 and 4)   |  |   |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 09/11/2012                           |   | M                                       | 5,000                          | A                      | \$<br>15.26 | 106,062  | D  |   |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 09/11/2012                           |   | F                                       | 3,295                          | D                      | \$<br>23.15 | 102,767  | D  |   |

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

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SEC 1474

(9-02)

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

| Dei<br>Sec | Fitle of rivative curity str. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transactio<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | Pransaction of Derivative Expiration Date Code Securities (Month/Day/Year) |                     | ate                | 7. Title and Amount<br>Underlying Securitie<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |                                       |
|------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|---------------------|--------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
|            |                                  |   |                                      |   | Code V                                 | and 5)   | Date<br>Exercisable | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | Amour<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |
|            | on-Qualified<br>ock Option       | \$ 15.26  | 09/11/2012                           |   | M                                      | 5,000  | <u>(1)</u>          | 09/19/2012         | Common<br>Stock   | 5,00                                  |

## **Reporting Owners**

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |         |       |  |  |  |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|--|--|--|
| • 0   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |  |  |  |
| BEYER ROBERT D<br>C/O THE KROGER CO.,<br>1014 VINE STREET<br>CINCINNATI, OH 45202 | X             |           |         |       |  |  |  |

#### **Signatures**

/s/ Robert D. Beyer, by Bruce M. Gack, Attorney-in-Fact

09/12/2012

\*\*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) 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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