

KROGER CO  
Form 8-K  
December 15, 2016

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report: **December 15, 2016**

(Date of earliest event reported)

**THE KROGER CO.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Ohio**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**No. 1-303**  
(Commission File Number)

**31-0345740**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**1014 Vine Street**  
**Cincinnati, OH 45202**

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(513) 762-4000**

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  
  - o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  
  - o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  
  - o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On December 15, 2016, the Company issued a press release announcing a one-time Voluntary Retirement Offering for certain non-store associates.

A copy of the Company's press release dated December 15, 2016 is attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and is incorporated herein by reference.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits.

| <b>Exhibit No.</b> | <b>Description</b>                    |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 99.1               | Press Release dated December 15, 2016 |

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

THE KROGER CO.

December 15, 2016

By:

*/s/ Christine S. Wheatley*

Christine S. Wheatley

Group Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel