

FEDERATED DEPARTMENT STORES INC /DE/
 Form 4
 March 28, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN 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 Person *
 COLE THOMAS L

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 FEDERATED DEPARTMENT STORES INC /DE/ [FD]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 03/24/2006

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 Vice Chair

C/O FEDERATED DEPARTMENT STORES INC, 7 WEST SEVENTH STREET

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

CINCINNATI, OH 45202

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock | | | | (A) or (D) Price | 4,449 ⁽¹⁾ | I | By 401(k) Plan |

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

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SEC 1474 (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) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Option to Purchase Common Stock | \$ 72.52 | 03/24/2006 | | A | 19,485 | (2) 03/24/2016 | Common Stock | 19,485 |
| Phantom Stock Units | (3) | 03/24/2006 | | A | 6,793 | (4) (4) | Common Stock | 6,793 |
| Phantom Stock Units | (3) | 03/24/2006 | | A | 10,962 | (5) (5) | Common Stock | 10,962 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|------------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| COLE THOMAS L C/O FEDERATED DEPARTMENT STORES INC 7 WEST SEVENTH STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202 | | | | Vice Chair |

Signatures

/s/Padma Tatta Cariappa, as attorney-in-fact for Thomas L. Cole pursuant to a Power of Attorney 03/28/2006

__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) Reflects matching contributions under the Issuer's 401(k) plan, derived by dividing the value of the undivided interest of the reporting person in the applicable investment fund as of March 24, 2006 by \$71.65, the stock price of such date.
- (2) Grant to reporting person of options to purchase 19,485 shares of common stock under the Issuer's 1995 Executive Equity Incentive Plan. The options become exercisable in 25% increments on March 24, 2007, March 24, 2008, March 24, 2009 and March 24, 2010.
- (3) 1-for-1 conversion.
- (4) The value of the phantom stock units will be payable in cash as follows: 50% on February 4, 2008 and 50% on February 2, 2009.
- (5) The value of the phantom stock units will be payable in cash as follows: 50% on February 1, 2010 and 50% on January 31, 2011.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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