

## FORM 4

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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Estimated average burden  
hours per response... 0.5

☐ 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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person WHITTINGTON MARNA C			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) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)					
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2003			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
2959 BARLEY MILL ROAD			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								
(Street) YORKLAND, DE 19736											
(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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			

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

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

(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)															
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)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Phantom Stock Units	(1)	12/31/2003		A		265		(2)	(2)	Common Stock	265	\$ 46.39 (3)	265	D	
Phantom Stock Units	(1)	12/31/2003		A		266		(4)	(4)	Common Stock	266	\$ 46.39 (3)	531	D	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
WHITTINGTON MARNA C 2959 BARLEY MILL ROAD YORKLAND, DE 19736	X			

## Signatures

/s/ Padma Tatta Cariappa, as attorney-in-fact for Marla C. Whittington pursuant to a Power of Attorney	01/05/2004
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) 1-for-1 conversion.

(2) Units are to be settled in Common Stock upon the Reporting Person's termination from the Board of Directors.

(3) The price noted is the average of the value of stock units granted each month during the quarter for which this report is filed.

(4) Units are to be received by Reporting Person upon termination from the Board of Directors.

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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