

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 ZIMMERMAN JAMES M			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 type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) Chairman						
(Last) (First) (Middle) C/O FEDERATED DEPARTMENT STORES, INC., 7 WEST SEVENTH STREET			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/27/2004										
(Street) CINCINNATI, OH 45202			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)				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						
(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				
Common Stock		02/27/2004			M		225,000	A	\$ 34.375	302,676	D		
Common Stock		02/27/2004			S		150,000	D	\$ 52	152,676	D		
Common Stock		02/27/2004			S		75,000	D	\$ 52.1542	77,676	D		
Common Stock		02/27/2004			S		55,809	D	\$ 52.1724	21,867	D		
Common Stock										1,069 (U)	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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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(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)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares						
Option to Purchase Common Stock	\$ 34.375	02/27/2004		M			225,000	03/28/2000	03/28/2007	Common Stock	225,000	\$ 34.375	0	D			

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ZIMMERMAN JAMES M C/O FEDERATED DEPARTMENT STORES, INC. 7 WEST SEVENTH STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202	X		Chairman	

Signatures

/s/Padma Tatta Cariappa, as attorney-in-fact for James M. Zimmerman pursuant to a Power of Attorney	03/01/2004
 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) 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 February 26, 2004 by \$51.82, the stock price of such date.

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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