

## 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

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * CODY THOMAS G		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) ____ Director X Officer (give title below) _____ 10% Owner ____ Other (specify below) Vice Chair			
(Last) (First) (Middle) C/O FEDERATED DEPARTMENT STORES, INC., 7 WEST SEVENTH STREET		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/22/2004					
(Street) CINCINNATI, OH 45202		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check 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 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	03/22/2004		M	590.65 A \$ 0	41,140.11 (1)	D	
Common Stock					959 (2)	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)
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						
Phantom Stock Units	(3)	03/22/2004		M	590.65	03/22/2004	03/22/2004	Common Stock	590.65	\$ 0	0	D	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CODY THOMAS G 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 G. Cody pursuant to a Power of Attorney	03/23/2004
**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) Includes 5.46 shares received on March 22, 2004 pursuant to a dividend reinvestment feature of the Issuer's long term incentive plan.

(2) 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 22, 2004 by \$48.79, the stock price of such date.

**(3)** 1-for-1 conversion.

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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