

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

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 * BELSKY JOEL A		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) Vice President and Controller			
(Last) (First) (Middle) C/O FEDERATED DEPARTMENT STORES, INC., 7 WEST SEVENTH STREET		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/26/2004					
(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)
Common Stock			Code V	Amount (A) or (D) Price	1,191 (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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contained in this form are not required to respond unless the
form displays a currently valid OMB control number. SEC 1474 (9-02)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	\$ 50.01	03/26/2004		A	3,000	(2) 03/26/2014	Common Stock 3,000	\$ 0	3,000	D	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BELSKY JOEL A C/O FEDERATED DEPARTMENT STORES, INC. 7 WEST SEVENTH STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202			Vice President and Controller	

Signatures

/s/Padma Tatta Cariappa, as attorney-in-fact for Joel A. Belsky pursuant to a Power of Attorney	03/30/2004
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 March 26, 2004 by \$50.50, the stock price of such date.

(2) Grant to reporting person of options to purchase 3,000 shares of common stock under the Issuer's 1995 Executive Equity Incentive Plan. The options become exercisable in 25 percent increments on March 26, 2005, March 26, 2006, March 26, 2007 and March 26, 2008, respectively.

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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