

## 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 ____ Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner ____ Other (specify below)				
(Last) (First) (Middle) 2959 BARLEY MILL ROAD			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/31/2004							
(Street) YORKLAND, DE 19736			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		03/31/2004		M		226 A \$ 0		4,826 (1)	D	

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information 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				
Phantom Stock Units	(2)	03/31/2004		M		226	03/31/2004	03/31/2004	Common Stock	226	\$ 0	0	D		
Phantom Stock Units	(2)	03/31/2004		A		282	03/31/2007	03/31/2007	Common Stock	282	\$ 49.79 (3)	282	D		
Phantom Stock Units	(2)	03/31/2004		A		283	(4)	(4)	Common Stock	283	\$ 49.79 (3)	283	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 Marna C. Whittington pursuant to a Power of Attorney	04/02/2004
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 2 shares received March 31, 2004 pursuant to a dividend reinvestment feature of the Issuer's directors compensation program.

(2) 1-for-1 conversion.

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

(4) Units are to be received by the 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.

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.