

HARTSHORN TOM J  
Form 4  
December 14, 2004

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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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, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
HARTSHORN TOM J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
DOLLAR GENERAL CORP [DG]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
100 MISSION RIDGE  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
12/10/2004

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Executive VP

GOODLETTSVILLE, TN 37072

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 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 or Price   |  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/10/2004                           |  | M                              |   | 143,042 A \$ 5.505  | 300,108  | D   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/10/2004                           |  | S                              |   | 143,042 D \$ 20.509   | 157,066  | D   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   |   | 4,354  | I By 401(k) Plan                                      |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   |   | 2,245  | I As Custodian for Child                              |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   |   | 24,139   | I By Spouse   |

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

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(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) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable Expiration Date                         | Title Amount Number Shares                                    |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)       | \$ 5.505   | 12/10/2004                           |  | M                              | 143,042   | 03/27/1996 03/27/2005                                    | Common Stock 143,0  |

### Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                   | Relationships |           |              |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer      | Other |
| HARTSHORN TOM J<br>100 MISSION RIDGE<br>GOODLETTSVILLE, TN 37072 |               |           | Executive VP |       |

### Signatures

/s/ Susan S. Lanigan, by Power of Attorney  
 Date: 12/14/2004  
 \*\*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).  
 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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