STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

KAPUT JIM L Form 4

December 28, 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.

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

See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person ** KAPUT JIM L			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SERVICEMASTER CO [SVM]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)		
3250 LACEY ROAD, SUITE 600			(Month/Day/Year) 12/27/2004	Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) Sr. VP & General Counsel		
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

DOWNERS GROVE, IL 60515-1700

(State)

(Zip)

(City)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

		Table 1 Tion Delivative Securities Required, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owner							
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	(A) or	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 \$.01 par value	12/27/2004		S	2,000 D \$ 13.67	45,318 <u>(1)</u>	D			
Common stock \$.01 par value					15,770	I	through 401(k) plan		
Common stock \$.01 par value					400	I	Cust. for children		
Common					5,123 <u>(2)</u>	I	Deferred		

stock \$.01 Comp par value

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. onNumber 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 or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 8.75					08/08/2001	08/07/2007	Common Stock	10,000
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 10.52					03/16/2002	03/15/2008	Common Stock	75,000
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 11.4125					04/01/2001	03/31/2010	Common Stock	50,000
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 13.83					02/08/2003	02/07/2009	Common Stock	85,000
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 13.87					05/04/2000	05/03/2006	Common Stock	541
2000 Emplee Stock Option	\$ 9.88					03/18/2004	03/17/2013	Common Stock	66,667

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(Right to Buy)

2003 EIP

Stock Appreciation \$ 10.73

02/13/2005 02/12/2014

Common Stock 50,000

Right

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

KAPUT JIM L

3250 LACEY ROAD, SUITE 600

General

3250 LACEY ROAD, SUITE 600 General DOWNERS GROVE, IL 60515-1700 Counsel

Signatures

Sandra L. Groman by power of attorney 12/28/2004

**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 236 shares acquired through the ServiceMaster Employee Share Purchase Plan during the months of September through December 2004.
- (2) Includes 42 shares purchased through the dividend reinvestment feature of the ServiceMaster Deferred Compensation Plan in November 2004.
- (3) The option is exercisable in five equal annual installments beginning on the first anniversary of the date of the grant.
- In 1999, ServiceMaster entered into a joint venture with Kleiner, Perkins, Caufield & Byers to develop an Internet company, We Serve (4) Homes.com ("WSH"). A WSH option was granted in 2000. On January 11, 2002, the WSH option was converted into a ServiceMaster option at a ratio of 55.48 to 1, pursuant to a merger with a subsidiary of ServiceMaster in a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-7.

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.

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