DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC

Form 4

October 03, 2007

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

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Check this box

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 may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

Common

Stock

10/01/2007

(Print or Type Responses)											
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * GEORGE DAVID C			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC [DRI]				5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)				
(Last)	(First) (M	liddle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction			Director _X_ Officer (gi		6 Owner er (specify			
5900 LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE			(Month/Day/Year) 10/01/2007					below) Pres of LongHorn Steakhouse			
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)					6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Form filed by More than One Reporting			
ORLANDO,	FL 32809							Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owne									lly Owned		
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date any (Month/Day/Year)		on Date, if	n Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D)			Securities Form: Direct Indir Beneficially (D) or Bene Owned Indirect (I) Own Following (Instr. 4) (Instr.		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)			
Common Stock	10/01/2007			A	1,517	A	\$0	1,517	D		
Common Stock	10/01/2007			A	1,549	A	\$0	3,066	D		
Common Stock	10/01/2007			A	1,670	A	\$0	4,736	D		
Common Stock	10/01/2007			A	2,104	D	\$ 0	6,840	D		

A

4,332 A

\$ 0 11,172

D

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Common Stock 10/01/2007 A 7,801 A \$0 18,973 D

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

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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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of or 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 Amo Underlying Secu (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	An or Nu of
Incentive Stock Option	\$ 16.77	10/01/2007		A	17,888	10/01/2007	12/31/2010	Common Stock	17
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 16.77	10/01/2007		A	2,071	10/01/2007	12/31/2010	Common Stock	2
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 13.55	10/01/2007		A	1,491	10/01/2007	10/25/2011	Common Stock	1
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 13.55	10/01/2007		A	2,945	10/01/2007	10/25/2011	Common Stock	2
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 19.6	10/01/2007		A	3,937	10/01/2007	07/01/2012	Common Stock	3
Incentive Stock Option	\$ 19.6	10/01/2007		A	1,940	10/01/2007	07/01/2012	Common Stock	1
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 17.6	10/01/2007		A	1,893	10/01/2007	09/30/2012	Common Stock	1
Incentive Stock Option	\$ 17.6	10/01/2007		A	934	10/01/2007	09/30/2012	Common Stock	
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 20.63	10/01/2007		A	3,510	10/01/2007	12/30/2012	Common Stock	3

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(Right-to-Buy)								
Incentive Stock Option	\$ 20.63	10/01/2007	A	1,729	10/01/2007	12/30/2012	Common Stock	1
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 20.93	10/01/2007	A	4,452	10/01/2007	03/31/2013	Common Stock	4
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 22.19	10/01/2007	A	34,959	10/01/2007	05/05/2013	Common Stock	34
Incentive Stock Option	\$ 22.19	10/01/2007	A	4,961	10/01/2007	05/05/2013	Common Stock	4
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 24.4	10/01/2007	A	6,611	10/01/2007	06/30/2013	Common Stock	6
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 25.25	10/01/2007	A	933	10/01/2007	10/21/2013	Common Stock	g
Incentive Stock Option	\$ 25.25	10/01/2007	A	1	10/01/2007	10/21/2013	Common Stock	
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 30.6	10/01/2007	A	6,392	10/01/2007	02/10/2014	Common Stock	6
Incentive Stock Option	\$ 30.6	10/01/2007	A	3,149	10/01/2007	02/10/2014	Common Stock	3
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 29.48	10/01/2007	A	4,829	10/01/2007	04/20/2014	Common Stock	4
Incentive Stock Option	\$ 29.48	10/01/2007	A	160	10/01/2007	04/20/2014	Common Stock	
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 29.48	10/01/2007	A	8,871	10/01/2007	04/20/2014	Common Stock	8
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 30.22	10/01/2007	A	4,990	10/01/2007	07/20/2014	Common Stock	4
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 34.03	10/01/2007	A	2,217	10/01/2007	10/19/2014	Common Stock	2
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 35.51	10/01/2007	A	7,841	10/01/2007	02/08/2016	Common Stock	7
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 35.51	10/01/2007	A	10,682	10/01/2007	02/08/2016	Common Stock	10

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(Right-to-Buy)								
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 35.94	10/01/2007	A	10,947	10/01/2007	02/13/2017	Common Stock	10
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right-to-Buy)	\$ 43	10/01/2007	A	36,143	10/01/2010	10/01/2017	Common Stock	36

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

GEORGE DAVID C 5900 LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE ORLANDO, FL 32809

Pres of LongHorn Steakhouse

Signatures

By: Douglas E. Wentz, Attorney-in-Fact for David C.
George 10/03/2007

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

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.

Reporting Owners 4

^{**} Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).