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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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 to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan for the purchase or sale of equity securities of the issuer that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10.

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>SHEARER ROBERT K</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>400 NORTH ELM STREET</u>  (Street) <u>GREENSBORO NC 27403</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>Kontoor Brands, Inc. [ KTB ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner  Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>05/01/2026</u>	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

**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	(A) or (D)	Price				
Common Stock	05/01/2026		A		2,586	A	\$0	54,437.992 <sup>(1)</sup>	D		

**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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (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: 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-d <sup>(2)</sup>	(3)							(4)	(4)	Common Stock	40,889.7619		40,889.7619 <sup>(5)</sup>	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

- Includes 94,761 shares received as dividend equivalents on restricted stock units since the last statement. Common stock includes restricted stock units.
- Represents phantom stock units ("PSUs") accrued under the Kontoor Brands Deferred Savings Plan For Non-Employee Directors Plan ("Plan"), to be settled 100% in cash upon the reporting person's retirement. The number of PSUs acquired equals the amount of Directors' fees deferred by the reporting person divided by the fair market value (average of the high and low selling prices) per share on the date of deferral. The number of PSUs beneficially owned may vary over time due to deemed reinvestment of dividends.
- 1 for 1.
- There is no date that should appear in these columns. These columns are not applicable to this particular filing.
- Includes 308,8649 shares received as dividend equivalents on PSUs since the last statement.

/s/ Thomas L. Doerr, Jr. for Robert K. Shearer (Pursuant to Signing Authority on File) 05/05/2026

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

\* 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.

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 Number.