FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB A | PPR | OVA |
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| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 |
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| Estimated average burden | |
| hours per response: | 0.5 |

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

| 1. Name and Address Stewart Shelley | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Kontoor Brands, Inc. [KTB] | | tionship of Reporting Person(s) all applicable) Director | to Issuer | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|----------|---|---------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/01/2023 | | Officer (give title below) | Other (specify below) | | | |
| 400 N. ELM STREET | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | ck Applicable Line) | | | | | |
| (Street) | | 27101 | | X | , , , | n filed by One Reporting Person n filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | |
| GREENSBORO NC 27401 | | | Rule 10b5-1(c) Transaction Indication | | | | | | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10. | t, instructi | on or written plan that is intended to | o satisfy the | | | |

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) | Transaction Code (Instr. | | 4. Securities Ad Disposed Of (D | | | Securities Beneficially Owned | 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 | 3 and 4) | | (msu. 4) |
| Common Stock | 04/01/2023 | | A | | 3,282 | A | \$0 | 18,608.046(1) | D | |

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| Security (Instr. 3) | 2. 2. 3. Transaction Conversion Date or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | | 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) | | Expiration Date | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | 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 | | Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Common stock includes restricted stock units.

/s/ Thomas L. Doerr, Jr. for Shelley Stewart Jr. (Pursuant to Signing 04/03/2023 Authority on File)

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

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.

 $^{^{\}star}$ 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).