FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| STATEMENT | OF | CHANGES | IN RENEE | ICIAI | OWNERS | SHIP |
|-----------|----|---------|------------|-------|----------|--------|
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OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

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 of Reporting Person* SMITH CLAYTON | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CATO CORP [CATO] | | | | | | | | | | Check a | tionship of Reportin all applicable) Director | | ıg Peı | 10% O | wner | | |
|--|--|--|-------------------|--|---|--|---------|--------------|---|--|--------|--------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| (Last) | ast) (First) (Middle) O. BOX 34216 | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/01/2016 | | | | | | | | | Λ | Officer (give title below) VP, Financial P | | Plann | below) | | | | |
| (Street) CHARLO (City) | | _ | 28234-421 Zip) | .6 | 4. If <i>i</i> | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | ine) X | Form | al or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | |
| | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transa Date (Month/Date) | | | | Execution Date | | | n Date, | Code (Instr. | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 5) | | | | 4 and Sec Ben Owr | | urities eficially | | wnership n: Direct or Indirect nstr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| | | | | | | | | Co | ode | v | Amount | (<i>A</i> | () or () | Price | , т | ransaction(s) nstr. 3 and 4) | | | | (msu. 4) | |
| Class A Common Stock | | | 05/01 | /2016 | | | | - | A | | 808(1) |) A | | \$ | 0 | 2,497 | | | D | | |
| | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Derivative Conversion Date | | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | | | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | of | | 6. Date Exercisable an Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) | | str. 3 | 8. Price Deriva Securi (Instr. ! | tive ty | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | (((| 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exerc | cisabl | | Expiration Date | Title | Amo or Num of Sha | ber | | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Compensation Committee awarded restricted shares on March 23, 2016. The grant was effective May 1, 2016, but the shares remain subject to a time-based vesting schedule.

/s/ John R. Howe, Attorney-In-05/02/2016

Fact

** 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.