FORM 4

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

| OMB APPRO | OVAL |
|---------------------|-----------|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 |
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| (Print or Type | e Responses) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|------|---|---------------|--|---|---------------------|---------------|---|-------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person – Kaplan Michael L. | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol RED ROBIN GOURMET BURGERS INC [RRGB] | | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) Chief Legal Officer | | | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 6312 S. FIDDLER'S GREEN CIRCLE, SUITE 200N | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/24/2017 | | | | | | | | | Cnie | i Legai Offic | er | | |
| (Street) GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111 | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | |
| (City) | | (State) | (Zip) | | | Table : | I - Nor | 1-Deriv | ative So | ecuritie | s Acquir | tired, 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) | | Code (Instr | | (4 | 4. Securities Acquire (A) or Disposed of (I (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | of (D) | | ~ <i>/</i> | | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | |
| | | | | | | | Code V | | amount | (A) or (D) | Price | msu. 3 and | | | | (Instr. 4) | |
| Common S | Stock | | 02/24/2017 | | | A | ١. | 1 | ,321 | A | \$ 0 3 | 5,467 ⁽²⁾ | | | D | | |
| | | | Table II - | | | | di | splays , Dispo | s a cur | rently v or Bene | alid ON | IB contro | d unless the number. | | | | |
| Derivative Conversion D | | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, it | 4. 5. Ni Transaction of Code Deri Secu Acqu (A) O Disp of (I | | ivative urities uired or bosed D) tr. 3, 4, | 6. Da Expi | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | | | es | | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s (Instr. 4) | Ownersl Form of Derivati Security Direct (I or Indire | Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | Code | V (A | .) (D | | cisable | Expira Date | tion | Title | Amou or Numb of Shares | er | | | | |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 47 | 02/24/2017 | | A | 7,4 | | | (3) | 02/24 | ·/2027 | Comm Stocl | ion 7 419 | | 7,419 | D | | |

Reporting Owners

| | Relationships | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|--------------|---------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |
| Kaplan Michael L. 6312 S. FIDDLER'S GREEN CIRCLE SUITE 200N GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111 | | | Chief Legal Officer | | | | |

Signatures

| /s/ Michael L. Kaplan | 02/28/2017 |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| **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).
- Represents a grant of time-based stock units under the issuer's Second Amended and Restated 2007 Performance Incentive Plan. Each time-based stock unit represents the contingent
- (1) right to receive, upon vesting of the unit, one share of the issuer's common stock. One-fourth (1/4) of the units are scheduled to vest on each of the first, second, third, and fourth anniversaries of the date of grant. The closing price on the date of grant, February 24, 2017, was \$47.00.
- (2) Includes 2,610 restricted stock units subject to vesting and forfeiture restrictions.
- (3) One-fourth (1/4) of the options are scheduled to vest on each of the first, second, third, and fourth anniversaries of the date of grant.

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.