#### **BALMUTH MICHAEL**

Form 4

January 13, 2006

### FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

**OMB** Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

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obligations may continue. See Instruction

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 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * BALMUTH MICHAEL			2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol ROSS STORES INC [ROST]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  (Check all applicable)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check an applicable)		
4440 ROSEWOOD DR.			(Month/Day/Year) 01/11/2006	X Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify below) Vice Chairman, Pres. & CEO		
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
PLEASANT	ON, CA 945	88	Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-	Derivative 8	Secur	rities Acquir	ed, Disposed of,	or Beneficially	y 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. Securition Dispose (Instr. 3, 4	d of (	(D)	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)
Common Stock	01/11/2006		M	50,000	A	\$ 19.31	574,166	D	
Common Stock	01/11/2006		S	50,000	D	\$ 30.3614	524,166	D	

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

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# 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. 5. Number of TransactionDerivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amour Underlying Securit (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Num of Sh
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 19.31	01/11/2006		M	50,000	<u>(1)</u>	01/30/2013	Common	50,0

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
·r· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
BALMUTH MICHAEL						
4440 ROSEWOOD DR.	X		Vice Chairman, Pres. & CEO			
PLEASANTON, CA 94588						

### **Signatures**

/s/ MICHAEL BALMUTH, VICE CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT AND CEO 01/12/2006

\*\*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).
- (1) The option becomes vested and exercisable over a four-year period as follows: 40% of the options vest monthly in the third year and 60% of the options vest monthly in the fourth.

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.

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