

DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC

Form 4

July 03, 2007

FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

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,
Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section
30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Collins Valerie K

(Last) (First) (Middle)

5900 LAKE ELLENOR
DRIVE, P.O. BOX 593330

(Street)

ORLANDO, FL 32859-3330

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol
DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC
[DRI]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
06/30/2007

4. If Amendment, Date Original
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title ____ Other (specify
below) below)
SVP, Corp. Controller & CIO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
__X__ 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. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired 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)
Common Stock	06/30/2007		F	391 D	\$ 43.855	33,093.5407 (1)	D
Common Stock	06/30/2007		A	333 (2) A	\$ 0	33,426.5407	D
Common Stock	06/30/2007		F	88 D	\$ 43.855	3,338.5407	D
Common Stock					1,177.836 (3)	I	Savings Plan

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

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SEC 1474
(9-02)

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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repor Trans (Instr
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
Collins Valerie K 5900 LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE P.O. BOX 593330 ORLANDO, FL 32859-3330	SVP, Corp. Controller & CIO

Signatures

Douglas E. Wentz, Attorney-in-fact for VALERIE K. COLLINS, 5900 Lake Ellenor Drive,
P.O. Box 593330, Orlando, FL 32859-3330, Darden Restaurants, Inc. (DRI)

07/03/2007

__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).

Reflects the acquisition of an aggregate of 113.5407 shares on May 1, 2007 pursuant to a dividend reinvestment feature of the Darden
(1) Restaurants, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan and the Shareholder Service Plus Plan direct investment and Dividend Reinvestment Plan sponsored and administered by Wells Fargo Shareholder Services.

(2) Reflects the issuance of common stock upon the vesting of performance stock units that are not derivative securities on June 30, 2007.

The number of shares reported is based on a plan statement dated May 31, 2007 and is derived from an undivided interest in a fund
(3) consisting of both Darden common stock and a small cash position that fluctuates from time to time. The number of shares reported may change based on the size of the cash position at the time of reporting.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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