

RUIZ FREDERICK R  
Form 4  
January 20, 2006

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
RUIZ FREDERICK R

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O GOTTSCHALKS INC., 7  
RIVER PARK PLACE EAST

(Street)

FRESNO, CA 93720

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
GOTTSCHALKS INC [GOT]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
01/03/2006

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 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 (A) 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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Amount  |  |  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | Code  | V   |  |  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   | Amount  |  |  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   | (D)   |  |  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   | Price   |  |  |

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

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(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 | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of Derivative Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|---|
|                                 |                           |                                      |                                   |                     |                                    |  |   |   |

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| (Instr. 3)                      | Price of Derivative Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------|--|------|---|-----|-----|------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Option to Purchase Common Stock | \$ 8.39 <sup>(1)</sup>       | 01/03/2006       | A          | 5,000  |      |   |     |     | <sup>(2)</sup>   | 01/03/2016      | Common Stock | 5,000 \$                   |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |         |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| RUIZ FREDERICK R<br>C/O GOTTSCHALKS INC.<br>7 RIVER PARK PLACE EAST<br>FRESNO, CA 93720 |               | X         |         |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Fred Ruiz                      01/20/2006  
 \*\*Signature of                      Date  
 Reporting Person

## 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) Options were distributed on 1/19/2006 but are granted at the market price as of 1/3/2006 at \$8.39 per share. Options are exercisable over the next ten years at the rate of 25% per year from Transaction Date.
- (2) Options become vested and exercisable in increments of 25% on each of the first, second, third and fourth anniversaries of the Transaction Date of 1/3/2006.

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.