

DEFRANCO JAMES
Form 4
December 17, 2004

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

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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
DEFRANCO JAMES

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol

ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS
CORP [DISH]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

9601 SOUTH MERIDIAN
BOULEVARD

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/14/2004

☐ Director ☐ 10% Owner
☒ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify below)
Executive Vice President

ENGLEWOOD, CO 80112

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
☒ Form filed by One Reporting Person
☐ Form filed by More than One Reporting
Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | |
| Class A Common Stock | 12/14/2004 | | G | V | 1,000 | D | \$ 0 | 4,765,802 D |
| Class A Common Stock | 12/14/2004 | | G | V | 600 | D | \$ 0 | 4,765,202 D |
| Class A Common Stock | | | | | | | | 600 I I ⁽¹⁾ |
| Class A | | | | | | | | 2,250,000 I I ⁽²⁾ |

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 shares are being held by the reporting person as custodian for his minor child.
- (2) The shares are held by DeFranco Investments Co., Ltd., a general partnership, of which the reporting person is the sole general partner.
- (3) By 401(k).
- (4) The shares are held by the reporting person in an irrevocable trust for the benefit of the reporting person's minor children and grandchildren. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares.

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.