ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORP

Form 4

January 16, 2007

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

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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

See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **DEFRANCO JAMES** Issuer Symbol ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS (Check all applicable) CORP [DISH] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction _X_ Director 10% Owner Other (specify X_ Officer (give title (Month/Day/Year) below) 9601 S. MERIDIAN BLVD. 01/11/2007 **Executive Vice President** (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

ENGLEWOOD, CO 80112

| (City) | (State) | (Zip) Tabl | le I - Non-D | Derivative S | Securi | ties Acqu | ired, Disposed of | , or Beneficial | 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. Securities Acquired on(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | Code V | Amount | or (D) | Price | (Instr. 3 and 4) | | |
| Class A Common Stock | 01/11/2007 | | M(1) | 23,000 | A | \$ 27.18 | 4,085,752 | D | |
| Class A Common Stock | 01/11/2007 | | S <u>(1)</u> | 15,000 | D | \$ 39.75 | 4,070,752 | D | |
| Class A Common Stock | 01/11/2007 | | S <u>(1)</u> | 8,000 | D | \$ 40 | 4,062,752 | D | |
| Class A Common | 01/11/2007 | | M(1) | 12,000 | A | \$ 28.88 | 4,074,752 | D | |

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| Stock | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|--------------|--------|---|-------------|-----------|---|-------|
| Class A Common Stock | 01/11/2007 | S <u>(1)</u> | 12,000 | D | \$ 40 | 4,062,752 | D | |
| Class A Common Stock | 01/16/2007 | S <u>(1)</u> | 10,000 | D | \$ 40.33 | 4,052,752 | D | |
| Class A Common Stock | 01/16/2007 | S <u>(1)</u> | 20,000 | D | \$ 40.35 | 4,032,752 | D | |
| Class A Common Stock | 01/16/2007 | S <u>(1)</u> | 20,000 | D | \$ 40.49 | 4,012,752 | D | |
| Class A Common Stock | | | | | | 50,000 | I | I (2) |
| Class A Common Stock | | | | | | 8,183 | Ι | I (3) |
| Class A Common Stock | | | | | | 2,250,000 | I | I (4) |
| Class A Common Stock | | | | | | 18,413 | I | I (5) |

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. Transact Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of ionDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | Expiration D (Month/Day) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | Amount of Securities d 4) |
|---|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-------|-------------------------------------|
| | | | | Code \ | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |

(9-02)

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| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 27.18 | 01/11/2007 | M <u>(1)</u> | 23,000 | <u>(6)</u> | 12/30/2015 | Class A Common Stock | 23,000 |
|--|----------|------------|--------------|--------|------------|------------|----------------------------|--------|
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 28.88 | 01/11/2007 | M(1) | 12,000 | <u>(7)</u> | 03/31/2013 | Class A Common Stock | 12,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | | |
| DEFRANCO JAMES 9601 S. MERIDIAN BLVD. | X | | Executive Vice President | | | | | |
| ENGLEWOOD, CO 80112 | | | | | | | | |

Signatures

/s/ James DeFranco, by Robert Rehg, his Attorney in Fact 01/16/2007

**Signature of 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).

Date

- (1) The transactions reported on this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan.
- (2) 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.
- (3) The shares are being held by the reporting person as custodian for his minor children.
- (4) The shares are held by DeFranco Investments Co., Ltd., a general partnership, of which the reporting person is sole general partner.
- (5) By 401(k).
- (6) The shares underlying the option were 100% vested upon the date of grant.
- (7) The option vests at the rate of 20% per year, commencing on March 31, 2004.

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.

Reporting Owners 3