FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT	OF	CHANGES	IN	BENEFICIAL	OWNERSHIP

OMB APF	PROVAL						
OMB Number:	3235-0287						
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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)

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* DEFRANCO JAMES				EC	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORP [DISH]										all app)wner			
(Last)	(Fir	rst) (Middle)		3. D	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/12/2003									X	belov			(specify		
(Street)					4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person						
(City)	(St	ate) (Zip)														orm filed by More than One Reporting erson				
		Tabl	e I - No	n-Deriv	ative	Sec	uritie	s Acc	quired	, Dis	posed o	f, or	Ben	efic	ially	Owne	ed				
Dat			2. Transac Date (Month/Da	h/Day/Year) i		2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) of Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4				and 5) Se Be Ov		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported		nership Direct Indirect str. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
									Code	v	Amount	(A (C	() or ()	Price	Э	Transa	action(s) 3 and 4)			(111511.4)	
Class A Common Stock 05				05/12/	2003	1003			S		672,384	1	D	32.4	4322 4,		767,302		D		
Class A Common Stock				05/12/	2003	2003			S		0		A	0		2,200,000			I	I ⁽¹⁾	
Class A Common Stock 05				05/12/	2003	.003		S		0		A	0		17,825			I	I ⁽²⁾		
Class A Common Stock 05/12					2003		S		0		A	0		56,008			I	I ⁽³⁾			
		Та									osed of, o					vned					
1. Title of Derivative Security 3. Transaction Date Execution Date (Month/Day/Year) 34. Deemed Execution Date if any (Month/Day/Year) (Month/Day/Year)			on Date, Day/Year) -	4. Transa Code (I 8)		tion of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) Date Expiration Exercisable Date			7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) Amoun or Numbe of Title Shares		Deri Seci (Inst		9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	Ov Fo Dii or (I)	vnership rm: rect (D) Indirect (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. The shares are held by DeFranco Investment Co., Ltd., a general partnership, of which the reporting person is the sole general partner.
- 2. On March 8, 2000, the Company issued an additional 60,000 shares of Class A Common Stock to EchoStar Communications Corporation's 401(k) Employees' Savings Plan ("The Plan"). The number of shares reported in column 5 represents the total number of shares allocated to the reporting person's account through the Plan to date. The reporting person has dispositive, but no voting power with respect to
- 3. 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.

05/14/2003 Jame DeFranco

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- * 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).

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.