

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

( ) Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person  
 Friedlob, Raymond L.  
 1400 Glenarm Place, Suite 300  
 Denver, CO 80202  
 U.S.A.
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 Echostar Communications Corporation  
 DISH
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)
4. Statement for Month/Year  
 12/31/99
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  
 Director ( ) 10% Owner ( ) Officer (give title below) ( ) Other  
 (specify below)
7. 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	2. Transaction		3. Transaction		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	6. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
	Date	Code	Date	Code	Amount	A/D			
Class A Common Stock	12/9/99	M			8,000	A	\$4.25		
Class A Common Stock	12/9/99	S			8,000	D	\$94.47		
Class A Common Stock	12/9/99	M			16,000	A	\$4.25		
Class A Common Stock	12/9/99	S			16,000	D	\$94.38		
Class A Common Stock	12/9/99	M			6,000	A	\$12.00		
Class A Common Stock	12/9/99	S			6,000	D	\$94.38		

Table II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction		4. Transaction		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)			6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities	10. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	11. Nature of Beneficial Ownership	
		Date	Code	Date	Code	Amount	A/D	Exercisable Date	Expiration Date	Title and Number of Shares						Month
Non-Employee Director Option (Right to Buy)	\$4.25	12/9/99	M			4,000	D	(1)	(2)			Class A Common Stock	4,000	0		
Non-Employee Director Option (Right to Buy)	\$4.25	12/9/99	M			4,000	D	(3)	(2)			Class A Common Stock	4,000	0		
Non-Employee Director Option (Right to Buy)	\$4.25	12/9/99	M			16,000	D	(4)	(2)			Class A Common Stock	16,000	0		
Non-Employee Director Option (Right to Buy)	\$12.00	12/9/99	M			6,000	D	(5)	(2)			Class A Common Stock	6,000	14,000		

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) The shares underlying the option vested when issued on December 20, 1995.
- (2) Each portion of the option expires ten years from the date on which that portion of the option becomes exercisable.
- (3) The shares underlying the option vested when issued on February 12, 1997.
- (4) The shares underlying the option vested when issued on February 12, 1997.
- (5) The shares underlying the option vested when issued on February 17, 1999.

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON  
 Raymond L. Friedlob

