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ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORP

Form 5

January 18, 2001

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
FORM 5
ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP
() Check box if no longer subject to Section 16.
Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b).
() Form 3 Holdings Reported
() Form 4 Transactions Reported
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
DeFranco, James
5701 South Santa Fe Drive
Littleton, CO 80120
U.S.A.
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
Echostar Communications Corporation

- 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 12/31/00
- 5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
- 6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) (X) Director () 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) () Other (specify below) Executive Vice President
- 7. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (Check Applicable Line) (X) Form filed by One Reporting Person
 - () Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I Non-Derivative	Securiti	es Ac	quired, Disposed	d of, or Bene	ficiall	y Owned	
1. Title of Security		actio	4.Securities A on or Disposed de Amount	of (D)		5.Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	
Class A Common Stock	12/7/ 0	0 G 	50,000 	D 		5,310,852	
Class A Common Stock	12/7/ 0	0 G 	50,000 	A (1)		50,000 	
			I	l I		2,200,000	
			 	l I		17,825	
			I	l I		6 , 008	

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

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1.Title of Derivative	2.Con	13.	4.	5.Number	of De	6.Date Exer 7	.Title and Amount	8.P
Security	version	Trans	saction	rivative	e Secu	cisable and	of Underlying	of
	or Exer	Date	Code	rities A	Acqui	Expiration	Securities	vat
	cise Pr		1 1	red(A) c	or Dis	Date(Month/		Sec
	ice of		1 1	posed of	E(D)	Day/Year)		rit
	Deriva		1 1			Date Expir		1
	tive		1 1		A/	Exer- ation	Title and Number	1
	Secu		1 1		D	cisa- Date	of Shares	1
	rity		1 1	Amount		ble		1

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) The shares were contributed by the reporting person to irrevocable trust for the benefit of reporting person's children and grandchildren. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares.
- (2) The shares are held by DeFranco Investment Co., Ltd., a general partnership, of which the reporting person is the sole general partner.
- (3) 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 the

(4) The shares are held by the reporting person as custodian for his minor children. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares. SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON

/s/ James DeFranco

DATE

shares.

1/15/01