## FORM 4

Check this box if no longer subject to

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box to indicate that a
transaction was made pursuant to a
contract, instruction or written plan for the
purchase or sale of equity securities of the

## purchase or sale of equity securities of th issuer that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10.

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <sup>*</sup> BROWN WILLIAM E			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>CENTRAL GARDEN &amp; PET CO</u> [ CENT ]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director X 10% Owner						
(Last) (First) (Middle)			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/06/2024	X         Officer (give title below)         Other (specify below)           Chairman         Chairman						
C/O CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY 1340 TREAT BLVD, SUITE 600			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)						
(Street) WALNUT CREEK	СА	94597		X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person						
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	-Derivative Securities Acquired. Disposed of. or Benefic	ially Owned						

## 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. Transac Code (Ir 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
			Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(Instr. 4)
Class A Common Stock	02/06/2024		A		13,534(1)	A	\$ <mark>0</mark>	920,634	D	
Class A Common Stock								330,912	Ι	By Irrevocable Trusts <sup>(2)</sup>

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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)		

Explanation of Responses:

1. The Reporting Person was awarded by the Issuer's Compensation Committee on February 6, 2024 a grant of 13,534 shares of restricted Class A Common Stock, which will vest in increments of 33 1/3% per year commencing on the third anniversary of the date of the grant.

2. These securities are owned directly by various family Irrevocable Trusts and indirectly by the Reporting Person and his spouse as co-trustees of the Irrevocable Trusts. The Reporting Person and his spouse, as co-trustees, have and share investment control over the securities held in each of the Irrevocable Trusts but disclaim beneficial ownership of the reported securities held by the Irrevocable Trusts except to the extent of his and his wife's pecuniary interest therein.

/s/ William Brown

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

02/08/2024 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.