

## FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:	3235-0287
Estimated average burden hours per response:	0.5

## 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 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

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 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 *	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>CENTRAL GARDEN &amp; PET CO [ CENT ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
<u>Dougher Brendan</u>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
(Last) (First) (Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>02/11/2026</u>	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
1340 TREAT BLVD, SUITE 600	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	
(Street)		
WALNUT CA 94597		
(City) (State) (Zip)		

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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	Amount			
Class A Common Stock	02/11/2026		A			3,584 <sup>(1)</sup>	A	\$0	3,584
Class A Common Stock									12,845
									I
									By Brigham-Dougher Family Trust <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)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
						Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title

## Explanation of Responses:

1. Restricted stock award granted by Company's Nonemployee Director Equity Incentive Plan, as amended.
2. Mr. Dougher disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares of the Company's Common Stock and Class A Common Stock owned by the Brigham-Dougher Family Trust dated 03/08/2022 except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

/s/ Filomena Eickstaedt as

Attorney-in-Fact for Brendan

02/12/2026

Dougher

\*\* 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.