ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP INC

Form 4

December 21, 2007

Check this box

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB Number:

Expires:

3235-0287

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

January 31, 2005

0.5

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OMB APPROVAL

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

if no longer

subject to

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

SECURITIES

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Grinberg Paul Issuer Symbol **ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP INC** (Check all applicable) [ECPG] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) 8875 AERO DRIVE, SUITE 200 12/21/2007 Executive VP, CFO & Treasurer (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting SAN DIEGO, CA 92123 Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial Owned Indirect (I) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price 100,000 Common 12/21/2007 Α \$0 133,500 D (1) Stock

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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| 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. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) | | ate | 7. Title a Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 a | of ng s | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---------------------|--------------------|--|---------------|---|---|
| | | | | Code V | (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | or Title Nu of | umber | | |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Grinberg Paul

8875 AERO DRIVE, SUITE 200 Executive VP, CFO & Treasurer

SAN DIEGO, CA 92123

Signatures

/s/ Robin R. Pruitt, Attorney-in-Fact for Paul
Grinberg
12/21/2007

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).

Grant to the reporting person on December 21, 2007 of deferred issuance restricted stock units ("RSUs") under the Encore Capital Group, Inc. 2005 Stock Incentive Plan (the "Plan"). Each RSU represents the right to receive one share of Encore's common stock. The RSUs are subject to vesting. 50% of the shares will vest on 12/21/2010, 25% will vest on 12/21/2011 and 25% will vest on 12/21/2012; provided that if the reporting person's employment is terminated without cause prior to vesting, 10% will vest if such termination occurs prior to 12/21/2008, 20% will vest if such termination occurs on or after 12/21/2008 but prior to 12/21/2009, and 30% will vest if such termination occurs on or after 12/21/2010.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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