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## FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| Check this box if no longer subject to |
|--|
| Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5           |
| obligations may continue. See          |
| Instruction 1(b).                      |

## 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 OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden

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| Estimated average burden |     |

| <u>CONSOLI</u> | dress of Reporting<br>DATED PRE<br>FIONAL HO |          | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP INC</u> [ ECPG ] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br>(Check all applicable)<br>Director X 10% Owner<br>Officer (give title Other (specify |
|----------------|--|----------|--|--|
|                |  | ( )      | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br>01/25/2005                       | below) below)  |
|                |  |          | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                             | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable<br>Line)<br>X Form filed by One Reporting Person                                   |
| SYDNEY         | C3   | NSW 2000 | _  | Form filed by More than One Reporting<br>Person  |
| (City)         | (State)                                      | (Zip)    |  |  |

#### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Code (Instr.            |   | 4. Securities A<br>Disposed Of (I |               |         | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Following<br>Reported | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------|---|---|---|
|                                 |  |   | Code                    | v | Amount                            | (A) or<br>(D) | Price   | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)  |   | (1150.4)  |
| Common Stock                    | 01/25/2005                                 |   | <b>S</b> <sup>(1)</sup> |   | 1,200,000                         | D             | \$19.65 | 3,720,705   | Ι   | See<br>Note <sup>(2)</sup>  |

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

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transa<br>Code (<br>8) |   | of  |     | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                    | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr. 3<br>and 4) |  | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4) | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|-----|-----|--|--------------------|---|--|---|--|--|--|
|   |   |  |   | Code                         | v | (A) | (D) | Date<br>Exercisable  | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |   |  |  |  |

#### Explanation of Responses:

1. Pursuant to an Underwriting Agreement dated as of January 20, 2005, the Underwriter acquired 1,200,000 shares of Issuer's Common Stock held by C.P. International Investments Limited ("CPII"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reporting Person, at \$20.00 per share, less Underwriter's discounts and commissions of \$0.35 per share.

2. Through a series of subsidiaries, Reporting Person owns CPII, the direct owner of Issuer's Common Stock.

 Consolidated Press

 International Holdings Limited

 By: Michael Karagiannis,

 Director

 \*\* 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.