FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Grinberg Paul</u> | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP INC [ECPG] | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reportir (Check all applicable) Director | | | 10% Owr | | |
|---|---|------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|------------------------|--|-------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------|--|--|--|
| (Last) 8875 AE | ` | First) E, SUITE 200 | (Middle) | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/23/2007 | | | | | | | X | below) | below) Treasure | , | | | |
| (Street) SAN DIEGO CA 92123 | | | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | |
| (City) | (5 | State) | (Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | · | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Trans. Date | | | | | | | | Juired, Disposed of, or Benefic 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Securities Acquired (A) of (D) (Instr. 3, 4) | | | (A) or | 5. Amount of | | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | | |
| | | | | | (MOHUIDA | | ii/Day/Tear) | Code V | | Amount | (A) or (D) Price | | Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | | (Instr. 4) | |
| Common Stock 08/2 | | | | | | 3/2007 | | A | | 10,000(1) | | | 23,500 | | D | | $\neg \neg$ | |
| Common Stock 08/2 | | | | | 3/2007 | | | A | v | 10,000 ⁽²⁾ A | | \$0 | 33,500 | | D | | $\neg \neg$ | |
| | | | Table II - D | | | | | | | sed of, o onvertible | | | vned | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | Transaction Code (Instr.) 8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 6. Date Exerc Expiration Da (Month/Day/Y | | ate of Securities | | ies g : Security | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Numbe derivative Securitie Beneficia Owned Following | ve Oves For ally or | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercis | sable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | Reported Transacti (Instr. 4) | | | | |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$10.92 | 08/23/2007 | | A | | 20,000 | | (3) | | 08/23/2017 | Common Stock | 20,000 | \$0 | 20,00 |)0 | D | | |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$18.63 | 08/23/2007 | | D | | | 250,000 ⁽⁴⁾ | (5) | | 09/20/2014 | Common Stock | 250,000 | \$0 0 | | | D | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Grant to the reporting person on August 23, 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, 100% of the shares will vest on the third anniversary of the date of grant; provided that if the reporting person's employment is terminated without cause prior to the vesting date, 10% will vest if such termination occurs prior to the first anniversary of the date of grant, 20% will vest if such termination occurs on or after the first anniversary of the date of grant but prior to the third anniversary.
- 2. Grant to the reporting person on August 23, 2007 of performance shares under the Plan. The performance shares are subject to vesting and will vest upon the achievement by Encore of certain financial goals.
- 3. The option was granted under the Plan and vests in three equal annual installments on the anniversary of the date of grant, commencing on August 23, 2008.
- 4. Voluntary cancellation for no value of an option to purchase 250,000 shares of common stock granted to the reporting person under the Plan on September 20, 2004.
- 5. The option vests in five equal annual installments on the anniversary of the date of grant, commencing on September 20, 2005.

/s/ Robin R. Pruitt, Attorney-in-08/27/2007 Fact for Paul Grinberg

** 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.