FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPROVAL             |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average burden |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

0.5

hours per response:

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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Grinberg Paul</u>                      |   |  |   |       |                                | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP INC [ ECPG ] |     |              |                                     |       |                              |                 |   | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director 10% Owner |   |   |                                      |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|---|-------|--------------------------------|--|-----|--------------|-------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|-----------------|---|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| (Last)   | (F  | irst)<br>E, SUITE 200                      | (Middle)                                    |       |                                | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/02/2011                          |     |              |                                     |       |                              |                 |   |   | Officer (give title below)  Executive VP, CF  |   |                                      | Other (s   | (specify   |  |
| (Street) SAN DIEGO CA 92123  |   |  |   |       |                                | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                             |     |              |                                     |       |                              |                 |   |   | i. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ine)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting  Person |   |                                      |  |  |  |
| (City)   | (S  | •  | (Zip)                                       |       | 4:                             |  |     |              |                                     |       |                              | D .             |   | - 11  |   |   |                                      |  |  |  |
| Table I - Non-Deriv  1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Date) |   |  |   | ction | ion 2A. Deemed Execution Date, |  |     | 3. 4. Securi |                                     |       | es Acquired<br>Of (D) (Insti | d (A) or        | 5. Amour<br>Securities<br>Beneficia<br>Owned Fe |   | nt of<br>es<br>ally<br>-ollowing  | Form<br>(D) o   | n: Direct<br>or Indirect<br>nstr. 4) | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership                      |  |  |
|  |   |  |   |       |                                |  |     |              | Code                                | v     | Amount                       | (A) or<br>(D)   | Price   | Reporte<br>Transac<br>(Instr. 3   |   | tion(s)   |                                      |  | (Instr. 4)   |  |
| Common Stock 05/02   |   |  |   |       | /2011                          | .011   |     |              | M                                   |       | 6,156                        | A               | \$2.8   | .89 204   |   | 4,888   |                                      | D  |  |  |
| Common Stock 05/02   |   |  |   | 05/02 | /2011                          | 2011   |     |              | S <sup>(1)</sup>                    |       | 6,156                        | D               | \$29.3  | 38(2) 198   |   | 8,732   |                                      | D  |  |  |
|  |   | T  | able II                                     |       |                                |  |     |              |                                     |       | oosed of<br>converti         |                 |   |   | wned  |   |                                      |  |  |  |
| 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. Deer<br>Execution<br>if any<br>(Month/I |       | 4.<br>Transa<br>Code (<br>8)   |  |     |              | 6. Date E<br>Expiration<br>(Month/E | n Dat |                              | Amount of       |   | De<br>Se<br>(Ir   | s. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>Instr. 5)  | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficial<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactio<br>(Instr. 4) | Ow<br>For<br>Dir<br>or (I)           | 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>Exercisa                    | ble   | Expiration<br>Date           | Title           | Amoun<br>or<br>Numbe<br>of<br>Shares            | r   |   |   |                                      |  |  |  |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(right to   | \$2.89  | 05/02/2011                                 |   |       | M                              |  |     | 6,156        | (3)                                 |       | 03/09/2019                   | Common<br>Stock | 6,156   |   | \$0   | 34,354  | 1                                    | D  |  |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. The sale reported was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on September 24, 2010.
- 2. The shares were sold in multiple transactions on May 2, 2011 at per share prices ranging from \$29.27 to \$29.73, inclusive. The price reported reflects the weighted average sale price for the transactions. The reporting person undertakes to supply the Staff, the issuer, or a security holder of the issuer, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price upon request.

3. March 9, 2011.

/s/ Florentino Zamora, Jr., Attorney-in-Fact for Paul

05/04/2011

**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.