FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

| Washington, | D.C. | 20549 |
|-------------|------|-------|

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL             |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: 3235-        |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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

|  |   |                   |            |   |       |  |       | ` '  |                |   | ' '                  |   |  |   |  |                                       |                    |            |  |
|--|---|-------------------|------------|---|-------|--|-------|--|----------------|---|----------------------|---|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|--|
| l .  |   | Reporting Person* |            |   |       |  |       | e <b>and</b> Tid   |                |   | Symbol               | С Г ЕСР   |  | Relationship<br>neck all appli                              |  | g Pers                                | son(s) to Iss      | uer        |  |
| Masih .  | <u>Asnisn</u>   |                   |            |   |       | .,   | OTTE  | C/ II I  | 11111          | <u> </u>  | JOI IIV              | <u> </u>  | ۱ ا  | X Direct  | or   |                                       | 10% Ov             | vner       |  |
| (Last)   | (F  | irst)             | (Middle)   |   |       | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)   |       |  |                |   |                      |   |  | X Office below  | r (give title<br>)   |                                       | Other (s<br>below) | specify    |  |
| 350 CAN  | AINO DE I   | A REINA           |            |   | 11/   | 11/15/2023   |       |  |                |   |                      |   |  | President and CEO   |  |                                       |                    |            |  |
| SUITE 100  |   |                   |            |   | 4. 1  | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)   |       |  |                |   |                      |   |  | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) |  |                                       |                    |            |  |
| (Street)   |   |                   |            |   | -     |  |       |  |                |   |                      |   |  | X Form  | filed by One   | Repo                                  | orting Perso       | n          |  |
| SAN DII  | EGO C   | A                 | 92108      |   |       |  |       |  |                |   |                      |   |  | Form<br>Perso   |  | e than                                | n One Repor        | rting      |  |
| (City)   | City) (State) (Zip) Rule 10b5-1(c) Transaction Indication |                   |            |   |       |  |       |  | )              |   |                      |   |  |   |  |                                       |                    |            |  |
|  |   |                   |            |   |       | Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10. |       |  |                |   |                      |   |  |   |  |                                       |                    |            |  |
|  |   | Tab               | ole I - No | n-Deri                                  | vativ | e Se   | ecuri | ties Ac  | quire          | d, Di   | sposed o             | of, or Bo   | eneficia   | lly Owned   | k  |                                       |                    |            |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transplate (Month/I  |   |                   |            | Execution Date,                         |       | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 3, 4) 8) 4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4)  |       |  |                | and 5) Securities Beneficially Owned Following  |                      | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) |  | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership         |  |                                       |                    |            |  |
|  |   |                   |            |   |       |  |       |  |                | e V   | Amount               | (A) (D)   | Price  | Transac   | Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)                           |                                       |                    | (Instr. 4) |  |
| Common Stock 11/15.  |   |                   |            | 5/2023                                  | '2023 |  | М     |  | 26,28          | 5 A   | \$30.                | 95 29   | 293,882  |   | D  |                                       |                    |            |  |
| Common Stock 11/15/  |   |                   |            | 5/2023                                  | /2023 |  | F     |  | 22,363         | S <sup>(1)</sup> D  | \$43.                | 6 271,519   |  |   | D  |                                       |                    |            |  |
|  |   | -                 |            |   |       |  |       |  |                |   | posed of<br>converti |   |  | / Owned   |  |                                       |                    |            |  |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)  2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security  (Instr. 3)  3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)  (Month/Day/Year)  3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) |   |                   |            | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8) |       | 5. Number of   |       | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                | 7. Title and Amount<br>of Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 3 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) | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |                    |            |  |
|  |   |                   |            |   | Code  | v  | (A)   | (D)  | Date<br>Exerci | sable   | Expiration<br>Date   | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares   |   |  |                                       |                    |            |  |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(right to<br>buy)   | \$30.95   | 11/15/2023        |            |   | М     |  |       | 26,285   | (2             | )   | 03/09/2024           | Commor<br>Stock   | 26,285   | \$0   | 0  |                                       | D                  |            |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Amount represents shares withheld for payment of the exercise price and tax liability incident to the exercise of options.
- 2. Grant to the reporting person on March 9, 2017 of a non-qualified stock option under the Encore Capital Group Inc. 2017 Stock Incentive Plan. All shares under the option have become vested and exercisable.

## Remarks:

/s/ Michael Chin, Attorney-in-Fact for Ashish Masih

11/17/2023

\*\* 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.