Instruction 1(b).

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| Check this box if no longer subject to | STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL | OWNERSHIP |
|--|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 | | |
| obligations may continue. See | | |

OMB APPROVAL

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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* BLACK J BRANDON | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP INC [ECPG] | | | | | | | | Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director 10% Owner | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|------------|---|---|-----|---|--|---|----------------------|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 8875 AERO DRIVE, #200 | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/14/2010 | | | | | | | | X Officer (give title below) Other (speci below) President & CEO | | | | | | |
| (Street) SAN DII | SAN DIEGO CA 92123 | | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | |
| Table I - Non-Deriv 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Date) | | | | action | 2/ Exp) if | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) obsposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 | | d (A) or | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following | | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | | |
| | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Reporte Transac (Instr. 3 | tion(s) | | | (Instr. 4) | | |
| Common Stock | | | 07/14 | 07/14/2010 | | | | M | | 13,125 | A | \$0.51 | l 14 | 146,358 | | | | | |
| Common | Stock | | | 07/14/2 | | | | | S ⁽¹⁾ | | 13,125 | D | \$21.15 | i ⁽²⁾ 13 | 133,233 | | | | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | | | | | | 10 | 10,388 | |] | By The Black Family Trust | | |
| | | | Table II | | | | | | | | osed of, converti | | | Owned | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deem Execution if any (Month/Da | Date, | 4. Transactio Code (Inst 8) | | | | 6. Date Exercis Expiration Dat (Month/Day/Ye | | te | 7. Title an of Securit Underlyin Derivative (Instr. 3 a | ies g Security | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficiall Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4) | Ownersi Form: y Direct (I or Indire (I) (Instr | vnership rm: rect (D) Indirect | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisa | ıble | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | | | |
| Employee Stock Option (right to | \$0.51 | 07/14/2010 | | | M | | | 13,125 | (3) | | 09/11/2012 | Common Stock | 13,125 | \$0 | 138,95 | 58 | D | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. The sale reported was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on May 7, 2010.
- 2. The shares were sold in multiple transactions on July 14, 2010 at per share prices ranging from \$20.62 to \$21.42, 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. The shares became exercisable as to 69,445 shares on May 3, 2005, and as to 69,444 shares on each of May 3 2006 and September 11, 2007 and are fully vested.

/s/ Florentino Zamora, Jr., Attorney-in-Fact for J. Brandon 07/16/2010 Black

** 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.