FORM 4

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL

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

| Instruction 1(b) | | | | pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 | | | | | | |
|--|---------|-------|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | or Section 30(h) of the Investment Comp | any Act of 1940 | | | | | | |
| 1. Name and Addre Bell Ryan B | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Sy <u>ENCORE CAPITAL GROU</u>] | | . Relationship of Reporting F Check all applicable) Director X Officer (give title below) | Person(s) to Issuer 10% Owner Other (specify below) | | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 350 CAMINO DE LA REINA SUITE 100 | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/D 03/09/2021 | ay/Year) | President, | President, MCM | | | | |
| SUITE 100 | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (| Month/Day/Year) 6 | . Individual or Joint/Group Fi | iling (Check Applicable | | | | |
| (Street) SAN DIEGO | CA | 92108 | | | X Form filed by One R Form filed by More th Person | eporting Person | | | | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | | | | | | | | |

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

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | Fitle of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|---------------------|---------|---|---|---|
| | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) Price | | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | (1130.4) |
| Common Stock | 03/09/2021 | | A | | 9,035 ⁽¹⁾ | A | \$0 | 42,071 | D | |
| Common Stock | 03/09/2021 | | A | | 9,058 ⁽²⁾ | A | \$0 | 51,129 | D | |
| Common Stock | 03/09/2021 | | F | | 8,394 ⁽³⁾ | D | \$40.12 | 42,735 | D | |

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

| (e.g., puts, cans, warr | | | | | | arants, options, convertible securities | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--------------------|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transa Code (8) | | of Deriv | rities lired r osed) r. 3, 4 | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Grant to the reporting person on March 9, 2021 of restricted stock units ("RSUs") under the Encore Capital Group, Inc. 2017 Incentive Award Plan. The RSUs are subject to vesting and vest in annual installments over a three-year period, with one-third vesting on March 9, 2022, one-third vesting on March 9, 2023, and the remaining one-third vesting on March 9, 2024.

2. Represents shares issued in connection with the vesting of performance stock units.

3. Disposal relates to the withholding of securities for the payment of the tax liability incident to the vesting of stock units.

Remarks:

<u>/s/ Michael Chin, Attorney-in-</u> <u>Fact for Ryan Bell</u> 03/11/2021

** 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.