

| OMB APPROVAL | |
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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> (Last) (First) (Middle) 8875 AERO DRIVE, SUITE 200 (Street) SAN DIEGO CA 92123 (City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP INC [ECPG]</u> | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>Executive VP, CFO & Treasurer</u> |
| | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/02/2011 | |
| | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |

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

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (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 Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 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 | | | |
| Common Stock | 02/02/2011 | | M | | 4,866 | A | \$2.89 | 199,087 | D | |
| Common Stock | 02/02/2011 | | S ⁽¹⁾ | | 6,098 | D | \$23.546 ⁽²⁾ | 192,989 | D | |

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, 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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 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 |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$2.89 | 02/02/2011 | | M | | 4,866 | | (3) | 03/09/2019 | Common Stock | 4,866 | \$0 | 46,666 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

- The sale reported was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on September 24, 2010.
- The shares were sold in multiple transactions on February 2, 2011 at per share prices ranging from \$23.47 to \$23.76, 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.
- The shares became exercisable as to 23,334 shares on March 9, 2010. The remainder of the shares will become exercisable as to 23,333 shares on each of March 9, 2011 and March 9, 2012, at which time all the shares subject to the option will be fully vested.

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

02/04/2011

** 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.