

ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP INC  
Form 4  
August 27, 2007

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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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 OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**BLACK J BRANDON**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP INC [ECPG]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**8875 AERO DRIVE, #200**  
  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**08/23/2007**

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
**Chief Executive Officer**

**SAN DIEGO, CA 92123**

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount (A) or (D) Price   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 08/23/2007                           |  | A                              |   | 42,450<br>(1)   | A  | \$ 0 47,450 D                     |
| Common Stock                    | 08/23/2007                           |  | A                              | V   | 42,450<br>(2)   | A  | \$ 0 89,900 D                     |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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**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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable Expiration Date                         | Title Amount or Number of Shares                              |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 10.92   | 08/23/2007                           |  | A                              | 84,900  | <u>(3)</u> 08/23/2017                                    | Common Stock 84,900   |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                  | Relationships |           |                         |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                 | Other |
| BLACK J BRANDON<br>8875 AERO DRIVE, #200<br>SAN DIEGO, CA 92123 | X             |           | Chief Executive Officer |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Robin R. Pruitt, Attorney-in-Fact for J. Brandon Black 08/27/2007

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* 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).
- Grant to the reporting person on August 23, 2007 of deferred issuance restricted stock units ("RSUs") under the Encore Capital Group, Inc. 2005 Stock Incentive Plan (the "Plan"). Each RSU represents the right to receive one share of Encore's common stock. The RSUs are subject to vesting. 100% of the shares will vest on the third anniversary of the date of grant; provided that if the reporting person's
- (1) employment is terminated without cause prior to the vesting date, 10% will vest if such termination occurs prior to the first anniversary of the date of grant, 20% will vest if such termination occurs on or after the first anniversary of the date of grant but prior to the second anniversary, and 30% will vest if such termination occurs on or after the second anniversary of the date of grant but prior to the third anniversary.
  - (2) Grant to the reporting person on August 23, 2007 of performance shares under the Plan. The performance shares are subject to vesting and will vest upon the achievement by Encore of certain financial goals.
  - (3) The option was granted under the Plan and vests in three equal annual installments on the anniversary of the date of grant, commencing on August 23, 2008.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.