

ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP INC  
 Form 4  
 April 10, 2012

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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**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)  
 3111 CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH,  
 SUITE 1300  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
 04/06/2012

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 President & CEO

SAN DIEGO, CA 92108

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

**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	04/06/2012 <sup>(1)</sup>		A		23,000	A	\$ 0
Common Stock					40,694	I	

By the  
 Black  
 Family  
 Trust

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

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 (9-02)

number.

**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)	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 22.17	04/06/2012		A	50,000	<sup>(2)</sup> 04/06/2022	Common Stock	50,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BLACK J BRANDON 3111 CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SUITE 1300 SAN DIEGO, CA 92108	X		President & CEO	

## Signatures

/s/ Carrie Darling, Attorney-in-Fact for J. Brandon Black

04/10/2012

\*\*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).

- (1) Grant to the reporting person on April 6, 2012 of restricted stock awards ("RSAs") under the Encore Capital Group, Inc. 2005 Stock Incentive Plan. Each RSA represents the right to receive one share of Encore's common stock upon settlement. The RSAs are subject to vesting and vest in annual installments over a three-year period, with one-third vesting on March 9, 2013, one-third vesting on March 9, 2014 and the remaining one-third vesting on March 9, 2015.
- (2) The option vests in annual installments over a three-year period, with one-third vesting on March 9, 2013, one-third vesting on March 9, 2014 and the remaining one-third vesting on March 9, 2015.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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