

Masih Ashish
Form 4
March 12, 2019

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 *
Masih Ashish

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 103

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
03/09/2019

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
President and CEO

SAN DIEGO, CA 92108

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 or Price | | |
| Common Stock | 03/09/2019 | | A | | 26,645 (1) | A | \$ 0 137,903 D |
| Common Stock | 03/09/2019 | | A | | 6,060 (2) | A | \$ 0 143,963 D |
| Common Stock | 03/09/2019 | | F | | 9,462 (3) | D | \$ 31.9 134,501 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) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Masih Ashish 3111 CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SUITE 103 SAN DIEGO, CA 92108 | | | President and CEO | |

Signatures

/s/ Greg Call, Attorney-in-Fact for Ashish
Masih 03/12/2019

**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 March 9, 2019 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, 2020, one-third vesting on March 9, 2021, and the remaining one-third vesting on March 9, 2022. Each RSU represents the right to receive one share of Encore Capital Group, Inc. common stock.
 - (2) Represents shares issued in connection with the achievement of performance targets for the year ended December 31, 2018.
 - (3) Disposal relates to the withholding of securities for the payment of the tax liability incident to the vesting of stock units.

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.