

ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP INC
 Form 4
 January 10, 2014

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2015
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
 Syran James A.

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)
 01/08/2014

____ Director
 Officer (give title below)
 ____ 10% Owner
 ____ Other (specify below)
 Sr VP, Ops & Chief Mktng Off.

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | |
| | | | | Code | V | Amount (1) | |
| Common Stock | 01/08/2014 | | M | A | \$ 22.17 | D | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Common Stock | 01/08/2014 | | S | D | \$ 49.2531 | D | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 5,000 | I | By trust (3) |

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

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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) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Non-qualified stock option (right to buy) | \$ 22.17 | 01/08/2014 | | M | 5,000 (1) | (4) 04/06/2022 | Common Stock | 5,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Syran James A. 3111 CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SUITE 1300 SAN DIEGO, CA 92108 | | | Sr VP, Ops & Chief Mkting Off. | |

Signatures

/s/ Brandt Schmidt, Attorney-in-Fact for James A. Syran
01/10/2014

__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) The transactions reported on this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on September 16, 2013.

(2) This price represents a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$49.06 to \$49.44 inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide Encore Capital Group, Inc. ("Encore"), any security holder of Encore, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the ranges set forth in this footnote.

(3) On August 19, 2013, the reporting person contributed 5,000 shares of Encore common stock to a charitable lead trust of which the reporting person is a trustee and a beneficiary. The reporting person continues to report beneficial ownership of all of the Encore common stock held by the trust but disclaims beneficial ownership except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

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(4) The option vests in three equal installments on March 9, 2013, 2014 and 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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