Bell Ryan B Form 3 July 02, 2018

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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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

response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP INC [ECPG] Bell Ryan B (Month/Day/Year) 06/21/2018 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 3111 CAMINO DEL RIO (Check all applicable) NORTH, Â SUITE 103 (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group 10% Owner Director _X__ Officer Other Filing(Check Applicable Line) (give title below) (specify below) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting EVP and COO of MCM Person SAN DIEGO, CAÂ 92108 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Â 17,719 (1) Common Stock D Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. 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 control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security	4. Conversion or Exercise	5. Ownership Form of	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
		(Instr. 4)	Price of	Derivative	(msu. 5)
		Title	Derivative Security	Security: Direct (D)	

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date		Amount or Number of Shares		or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	(2)	03/09/2024	Common Stock	12,047	\$ 30.95	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
• 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
Bell Ryan B 3111 CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH SUITE 103 SAN DIEGO, Â CAÂ 92108	Â	Â	EVP and COO of MCM	Â	

Signatures

/s/ Michael Chin, Attorney-in-Fact for Ryan Bell 07/02/2018

Explanation of Responses:

**Signature of Reporting Person

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).
- These shares include (1) 1,881 unvested restricted stock awards ("RSAs") that vest on March 9, 2019, (2) 6,351 unvested RSAs that vest in equal installments on December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2019, (3) 2,961 unvested RSAs that vest in equal installments on March 9, 2019 and March 9, 2020 and (4) 3,829 unvested restricted stock units that vest in equal installments on March 9, 2019, March 9, 2020 and March 9, 2021 with each restricted stock unit representing the right to receive one share of Encore Capital Group, Inc. common stock.

Date

Grant to the reporting person on March 9, 2017 under the Encore Capital Group, Inc. 2013 Incentive Compensation Plan. One-third of the shares have vested and are exercisable. Subject to continued employment, one-third of the shares will vest on March 9, 2019 and the remaining one-third will vest on March 9, 2020.

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.

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