Freter Glen V Form 3 June 09, 2006

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

response...

3235-0104

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

January 31, Expires: 2005

Estimated average burden hours per

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 *

Freter Glen V

(Last)

8875 AERO DRIVE, #200

(First) (Middle)

Statement

(Month/Day/Year)

06/05/2006

2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP INC [ECPG]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

5. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Check all applicable)

10% Owner Director _X__ Officer Other (give title below) (specify below)

Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person

6. Individual or Joint/Group

Form filed by More than One Vice President & Controller Reporting Person

SAN DIEGO, CAÂ 92123

(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)

2. Amount of Securities

Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)

Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership Form:

Ownership (Instr. 5)

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

3. Title and Amount of

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

2. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

4. Conversion or Exercise Price of

Derivative

Security

5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

Expiration Date Exercisable Date

Title

Amount or Number of Shares

Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)

1

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Employee Stock Option (right to buy)

 $\hat{A} = \frac{(1)}{2}$

06/05/2016 Common

25,000

\$ 10.6

D Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer

Other

Freter Glen V

8875 AERO DRIVE, #200 SAN DIEGO, CAÂ 92123 Â

Vice President & Controller Â

Signatures

/s/ Glen V.

06/09/2006

Freter

Date

**Signature of Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).
- (1) Grant to the reporting person on June 5, 2006 under the Encore Capital Group, Inc. 2005 Stock Incentive Plan. The option vests in five equal annual installments commencing on June 5, 2007.

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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