Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST INC

Form 4

December 15, 2008

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

OMB APPROVAL

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

10% Owner

Other (specify

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

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(b).

(Last)

(City)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * SCHALL MICHAEL J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST INC

[ESS]

(Middle)

(Zip)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

12/15/2008

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

below)

(Check all applicable)

Senior Exec. VP & COO

C/O ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST, 925 E MEADOW DRIVE

(Street)

(State)

(First)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

Director

X_ Officer (give title

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

PALO ALTO, CA 94303

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3) (Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)

Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)

(9-02)

(A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount Price (D)

Common 12/15/2008 Stock

G 220

D \$0 101,016 D

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)

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1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		4. Transacti	5. orNumber		Date Exercisable and spiration Date		and of	8. Price of Derivative	9. Nu Deriv
Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	of (Month/Day/Year) Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)			Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		(Instr. 5)	Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title N	lumber		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SCHALL MICHAEL J C/O ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST 925 E MEADOW DRIVE PALO ALTO, CA 94303

Senior Exec. VP & COO

Signatures

Michael J. Schall 12/15/2008

**Signature of Date Reporting Person

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).

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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