

ZIMMERMAN CRAIG K  
 Form 4  
 December 29, 2005

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 \*  
 ZIMMERMAN CRAIG K

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST INC  
 [ESS]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/28/2005

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 Executive Vice President

C/O ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST, 925 E MEADOW DR

(Street)

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

PALO ALTO, CA 94303

(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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				(A) or (D)	Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4. Transaction of Derivative	5. Number of Derivative	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities
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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)				
Series			Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Z-1 Incentive Unit <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>(2)</u> <u>(3)</u>	12/28/2005	J	<sup>(1)</sup>	8,366		12/28/2020	12/28/2020	Z-1 Incentive Unit	8,366

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ZIMMERMAN CRAIG K C/O ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST 925 E MEADOW DR PALO ALTO, CA 94303			Executive Vice President	

Signatures

For: Craig K. Zimmerman, By: Michael J. Schall (Attorney in Fact) 12/28/2005

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. Represents the grant of Series Z-1 Incentive Units pursuant to the Essex Portfolio, L.P. Long Term Incentive Plan. Subject to the conversion Ratchet Percentage described below, the Series Z-1 Incentive Units are convertible or redeemable, as the case may be, upon the occurrence of certain events, into either (i) Operating Partnership units in Essex Portfolio, L.P. ("OPUs"), and such OPUs are convertible into shares of Common Stock. The Conversion Ratchet Percentage, initially set at 20% will increase by up to 10% on January 1 of each year for each holder of Series Z-1 Incentive Units who remains employed by Essex Property Trust, Inc. if Essex Property Trust, Inc. has met a specified "funds from operations" per share target, or such other criteria established by the Compensation Committee, for the prior year, up to a maximum Conversion Ratchet Percentage of 100%.
- 2. The Series Z-1 Incentive Units will automatically convert into OPUs (1) if the Conversion Ratchet Percentage reaches the maximum level of 100%, (2) if none of the participating executives remain employed by Essex Property Trust, Inc., (3) if Essex Property Trust, Inc. dissolves or is liquidated or, (4) at the latest, June 2019. In certain change of control situations, the participating executives will also be given the option to convert their units at the then-effective Conversion Ratchet Percentage. In addition, Essex Portfolio, L.P. has the option to redeem Series Z-1 Incentive Units held by any executive whose employment has been terminated for any reason and the obligation to redeem any such units following the death of the holder. In such event, Essex Portfolio, L.P. will redeem the units for, at its option, either OPUs or shares of Common Stock based on the then-effective Conversion Ratchet Percentage.
- 3. The Series Z-1 Incentive Units are convertible into the number of OPUs calculated by dividing (1) the remainder resulting from (a) the portion of the adjusted capital account balance properly allocable to such Series Z-1 Incentive Units minus (b) the product of (i) such adjusted capital account balance allocable to such Series Z-1 Incentive Unit multiplied by (ii) (x) 100% less (y) the Conversion Ratchet

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Percentage applicable to such Series Z-1 Incentive Unit, minus (c) any unpaid capital commitment (2) the average adjusted capital account balance properly allocable to one OPU determined immediately prior to such conversion.

(4) 4. A capital contribution of \$1.00 per Series Z-1 Incentive Unit.

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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