

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| 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).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

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|---|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Kelley Philip M</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>1220 AUGUSTA DR</u> <u>SUITE 600</u> (Street) <u>HOUSTON TX 77057</u> (City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>CROWN CASTLE INTERNATIONAL CORP [CCI]</u> | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>Senior VP, Corp Dev & Strategy</u> |
| | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>02/16/2017</u> | |
| | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | |
| | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|------------|-------|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | | | |

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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|-----|--|-----------------|---|--|--|---|--|-------|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | | | | | Title |
| Time RSUs | (1) | 02/16/2017 | | A | | 5,801 | | (2) | (2) | Common Stock | 5,801 | \$0 | 5,801 | D | |
| Performance RSUs | (1) | 02/16/2017 | | A | | 20,595 | | (3)(4) | (3)(4) | Common Stock | 20,595 | \$0 | 20,595 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

- Each Restricted Stock Unit ("RSU") is issued pursuant to the Company's 2013 Long-Term Incentive Plan and represents a contingent right to receive one share of common stock and vesting (i.e., forfeiture restriction termination) generally is subject to (i) the reporting person remaining an employee or director of the Company or its affiliates and (ii) the other criteria described in the footnotes below.
- 33 1/3% of the Time RSUs vest on February 19 of each of 2018, 2019 and 2020.
- 0% to 100% of the Performance RSUs may vest on February 19, 2020 based upon the Company's total stockholder return ("TSR") performance rating ("TSR Rank") relative to a peer group of companies approved by the Company's board of directors for the three year period ending February 16, 2020 ("Period"). If the TSR Rank is at the 30th percentile or more up to the 55th percentile, then 33.34% to 66.67% of the Performance RSUs vest on a pro rata basis based upon the level of the TSR Rank (i.e., approximately an additional 1.3336% of the units vest for each 1.0 percentile increase in the TSR Rank above the 30th percentile up to the 55th percentile), with 66.67% of the Performance RSUs vesting at the 55th percentile (Continued in Footnote 4)
- (Continued from Footnote 3) If the TSR Rank is at the 55th percentile or more, then 66.67% to 100% of the Performance RSUs vest on a pro rata basis based upon the level of the TSR Rank (i.e., approximately an additional 0.95229% of the units vest for each 1.0 percentile increase in the TSR Rank above the 55th percentile up to the 90th percentile (or above)), with 100% of the units vesting at or above the 90th percentile. However, if the TSR is negative for the Period and the TSR Rank is at or above the 30th percentile, the percentage of units which vest shall be 33.34%. If the TSR Rank is below the 30th percentile, 100% of the Performance RSUs will be forfeited.

Remarks:

/s/ Philip M. Kelley 02/21/2017
 ** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

* 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.

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 Number.