

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO

Form 4

November 18, 2015

**FORM 4****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287Expires: January 31,  
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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 \*  
MATOVINA JOHN M

(Last) (First) (Middle)

6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY

(Street)

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading  
SymbolAMERICAN EQUITY  
INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING  
CO [AEL]3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)

11/17/2015

4. If Amendment, Date Original  
Filed(Month/Day/Year)5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

CEO &amp; President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
☒ 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<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired<br>or Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Common<br>Stock                       | 02/23/2015                              |                                                             | G                                    | V 450 D \$ 0                                                        | 129,012                                                                                                            | D                                                                    |                                                                   |
| Common<br>Stock                       | 04/20/2015                              |                                                             | G                                    | V 1,000 D \$ 0                                                      | 128,012                                                                                                            | D                                                                    |                                                                   |
| Common<br>Stock                       | 11/17/2015                              |                                                             | M                                    | 10,000 A \$<br>10.24                                                | 138,012                                                                                                            | D                                                                    |                                                                   |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of  
information contained in this form are not  
required to respond unless the form**SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

**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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |                 |              |                            |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
|                                            |                                                        |                                      |                                                    | Code                           | V                                                                                       | (A)                                                      | (D) | Date Exercisable                                              | Expiration Date | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Options - Right to Buy                     | \$ 10.24                                               | 11/17/2015                           |                                                    | M                              |                                                                                         | 10,000                                                   |     | 03/15/2013                                                    | 03/15/2016      | Common Stock | 10,000                     |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                       | Relationships |           |                 |       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|
|                                                                      | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer         | Other |
| MATOVINA JOHN M<br>6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY<br>WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266 | X             |           | CEO & President |       |

## Signatures

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of Attorney  
11/18/2015

\_\_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).

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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