MATOVINA JOHN M

Form 4 June 16, 2009

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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0.5

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10% Owner

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Check this box

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

may continue. See Instruction

1(b).

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obligations

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * MATOVINA JOHN M

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING

CO [AEL]

(Last) (First) (Middle)

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

05/08/2009

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

_X__ Director

X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)

Vice Chairman, CFO & Treasurer

5000 WESTOWN PARKWAY, SUITE 440

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

3.

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

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

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year) TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

4. Securities

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

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

Reported (A) Transaction(s)

(Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

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

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

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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 or 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	\$ 7	05/08/2009		A	40,000	05/08/2012	05/08/2019	Common Stock	40,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
reporting of their name (reduces)	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
MATOVINA JOHN M 5000 WESTOWN PARKWAY, SUITE 440 WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266	X		Vice Chairman, CFO & Treasurer		
Signatures					
Debra J. Richardson, by Power of Attorney		06/16/2009			

Explanation of Responses:

**Signature of Reporting Person

- * 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).

Date

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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