NOBLE DAVID J Form 4 April 02, 2010

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

Number:

3235-0287

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0.5

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obligations

Check this box

may continue.

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

1(b).

(Last)

Security

(Instr. 3)

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * NOBLE DAVID J

(First)

(Street)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Issuer

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Symbol

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING

_X__ Director X_ Officer (give title

10% Owner

CO [AEL]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

below)

Other (specify

(Month/Day/Year) 03/31/2010

6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY

(Middle)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

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

(Check all applicable)

Executive Chairman

Person

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

(State) (City) (Zip) 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

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

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

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

(A)

or

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

(Month/Day/Year)

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

1. Title of Derivative Conversion 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

4 5. Number of TransactionDerivative

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)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 10.65	03/31/2010		A	50,000	03/31/2013	03/30/2016	Common Stock	50,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
reporting Owner Name / Namess	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
NOBLE DAVID J 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266	X		Executive Chairman			

Signatures

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of Attorney 04/02/2010

**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. 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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