

Cox L Kevin  
 Form 4  
 February 22, 2011

**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 \*  
 Cox L Kevin

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 AMERICAN EXPRESS CO [AXP]

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 3 WORLD FINANCIAL  
 CENTER, 200 VESEY ST,  
 AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
 02/18/2011

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 EVP, Human Resources

(Street)  
 NEW YORK, NY 10285

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

(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 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)	
				(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	02/18/2011		M	V	25,434	A	\$ 16.71 123,402	D
Common Stock	02/18/2011		S		16,860 <u>(1)</u>	D	\$ 45.311 106,542 <u>(2)</u>	D
Common Stock	02/18/2011		S		5,713	D	\$ 45.311 100,829 <u>(2)</u>	D
Common Stock	02/18/2011		G	V	1,800	D	<u>(3)</u> 99,029	D

Common Stock 49 <sup>(4)</sup> I by 401(k) Trust

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

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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 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
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 16.71	02/18/2011		M	25,434	01/29/2010 01/28/2019	Common Stock	25,434	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
Cox L Kevin 3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER 200 VESEY ST, AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER NEW YORK, NY 10285	Director 10% Owner Officer EVP, Human Resources

## Signatures

/s/ Michael G. Kuchs, attorney-in-fact 02/18/2011  
 \*\*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) Of the 25,434 shares acquired pursuant to the option exercise reported above, approximately 16,860 were sold to cover the cost of exercise and withholding taxes. Mr. Cox retained 50% of the net shares acquired from the option exercise.

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- (2) The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$45.25 to \$45.34. The reporting person undertakes to provide to American Express Company, any security holder of American Express Company, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within this range.
- (3) Bona fide charitable gift.
- (4) Shares held in reporting person's account under the Company's Retirement Savings Plan. This plan uses unit accounting, and the number of shares that a participant is deemed to hold varies with the unit price of the Company pooled stock fund.

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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