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AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO

Form 4

February 29, 2008

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB

3235-0287 Number:

OMB APPROVAL

January 31, Expires: 2005

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Check this box

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * HILTON ROBERT L

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Issuer

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Symbol

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING

(Check all applicable)

CO [AEL]

02/28/2008

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

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

5000 WESTOWN PARKWAY, **SUITE 440**

(Street)

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

Applicable Line)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

(City) (State) (Zip)

02/28/2008

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

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired (A) 5. Amount of 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transactionr Disposed of (D) Securities Ownership Indirect (Instr. 3) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Beneficially Form: Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned Direct (D) Ownership Following or Indirect (Instr. 4) Reported (I) (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V (D) Price Amount

P 26,000 D 10,000

Stock

Common

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)

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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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. orNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3,		ate	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
					4, and 5)	Date	Expiration		Amount		
				Code V	/ (A) (D)	Exercisable	Date	Title	Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

HILTON ROBERT L

5000 WESTOWN PARKWAY, SUITE 440 X

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

Signatures

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of Attorney 02/29/2008

**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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