

LINDNER CARL H  
 Form 4  
 December 27, 2004

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

OMB APPROVAL

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**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 \*  
 LINDNER CARL H

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC [AFG]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/23/2004

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 Chairman of the Board

ONE EAST FOURTH STREET

(Street)

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

CINCINNATI, OH 45202

(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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock					0	D	
Common Stock	12/23/2004		P		50,000	A	\$ 31.5
Common Stock					9,158,201 <sup>(1)</sup>	I	Indirect #1 <sup>(2)</sup>
Common Stock					349,401	I	Indirect #2 <sup>(3)</sup>
Common Stock					1,235,796	I	Indirect #3 <sup>(4)</sup>
Common Stock					1,327,270	I	Indirect #7 <sup>(5)</sup>

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

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(9-02)

**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)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 3 and 4)
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## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
LINDNER CARL H ONE EAST FOURTH STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202	X	X	Chairman of the Board	

## Signatures

Carl H. Lindner By: Karl J. Grafe, as  
Attorney-in-Fact

12/27/2004

\_\_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) Included in this total is a return of 157 shares previously gifted.
- (2) Indirect #1: By Carl H. Lindner Jr., et al, Trustees for the Carl H. Lindner Amended and Restated Family Trust dated 12/23/83.
- (3) Indirect #2: By Edyth B. Lindner, Spouse.
- (4) Indirect #3: By Lou Ann Flint, Trustee of the Edyth B. Lindner 2002-2 Qualified Annuity Trust U/A dated 8/19/02.
- (5) Indirect #7: EBL, Trustee of the Edyth B. Lindner Family Trust dtd 4/13/04.

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.