

HILTON ROBERT L  
 Form 4  
 April 03, 2013

**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 \*  
**HILTON ROBERT L**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY

(Street)

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO [AEL]**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 04/02/2013

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

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

**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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount or Price		
Common Stock	04/02/2013		M		1,000 A \$ 9	37,000	D
Common Stock	04/02/2013		M		1,000 A \$ 11	38,000	D
Common Stock	04/02/2013		M		1,000 A \$ 10.77	39,000	D
Common Stock	04/02/2013		M		10,000 A \$ 10.85	49,000	D
Common Stock	04/02/2013		M		10,000 A \$ 5.85	59,000	D

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Common Stock	04/02/2013	S	22,800	D	\$ 14.735	36,200	D
Common Stock	04/02/2013	S	200	D	\$ 14.73	36,000	D

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)	Amount or Number of Shares	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 9	04/02/2013		M	1,000	06/30/2004 12/04/2013	Common Stock	1,000	
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 11	04/02/2013		M	1,000	06/10/2004 06/10/2014	Common Stock	1,000	
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 10.77	04/02/2013		M	1,000	06/30/2005 12/31/2014	Common Stock	1,000	
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 10.85	04/02/2013		M	10,000	06/11/2011 06/11/2018	Common Stock	10,000	
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 5.85	04/02/2013		M	10,000	06/04/2012 06/04/2019	Common Stock	10,000	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

X

HILTON ROBERT L  
6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY  
WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

## Signatures

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of  
Attorney

04/03/2013

\_\_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.

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