

Linville Judson C  
 Form 5  
 February 17, 2009

# FORM 5

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0362  
 Expires: January 31, 2005  
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 1.0

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).  
 Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

**ANNUAL 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 Linville Judson C

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER, 200 VESEY STREET, AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/31/2008

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)  
 CEO, U.S. Consumer Division

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(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) (A) or (D) Price	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
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Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 2270 (9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4. Transaction	5. Number of	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	8. Price
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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)				
				(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Phantom Stock Units	Â	01/29/2008 <sup>(2)</sup>	Â	J <sup>(2)</sup>	295	Â	Â <sup>(3)</sup>	Â <sup>(3)</sup>	Common Stock	295

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Linville Judson C 3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER 200 VESEY STREET, AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER NEW YORK, NY	Â	Â	Â CEO, U.S. Consumer Division	Â

## Signatures

/s/ Stephen P. Norman,  
attorney-in-fact

02/17/2009

\_\_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) The phantom stock converts into common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- (2) The reported phantom stock units were acquired under the Company's Supplemental Retirement Plan on 1/29/2008, 3/13/2008, 4/30/2008, 7/29/2008, and 10/29/08 at prices of \$47.80, \$42.70, \$48.20, \$37.52, and \$25.21 per share, respectively.
- (3) The units are to be settled upon the reporting person's retirement or other termination of service.
- (4) Includes phantom stock units acquired pursuant to a dividend reinvestment feature of the Company's Supplemental Retirement Plan.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.