

LINDNER S CRAIG  
Form 4  
December 27, 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 \*  
LINDNER S CRAIG

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)  
301 EAST FOURTH STREET  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
12/22/2011

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Co-CEO & Co-President

CINCINNATI, OH 45202

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)
			Code	V Amount (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	12/22/2011		M	50,000 A \$ 20.28	2,151,516	I	#1 <sup>(1)</sup>
Common Stock	12/22/2011		S	50,000 D \$ 36.9155 <sub>(2)</sub>	2,101,516	I	#1 <sup>(1)</sup>
Common Stock	12/23/2011		M	32,500 A \$ 20.28	2,134,016	I	#1 <sup>(1)</sup>
Common Stock	12/23/2011		S	32,500 D \$ 37.2287 <sub>(3)</sub>	2,101,516	I	#1 <sup>(1)</sup>
					111,862	I	#3 <sup>(4)</sup>

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Common Stock					
Common Stock	25,873	I	#6 <sup>(5)</sup>		
Common Stock	26,818.9636	I	#12 <sup>(6)</sup>		
Common Stock	225,546	I	#23 <sup>(7)</sup>		
Common Stock	194,939	I	#24 <sup>(8)</sup>		
Common Stock	301,805	I	#25 <sup>(9)</sup>		
Common Stock	27,000	I	#26 <sup>(10)</sup>		

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

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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)	
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Common Stock	\$ 20.28	12/22/2011		M	50,000	<sup>(11)</sup>	02/24/2015	Common	50,000
Common Stock	\$ 20.28	12/23/2011		M	32,500	<sup>(11)</sup>	02/24/2015	Common	32,500

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
	X		Co-CEO & Co-President	

LINDNER S CRAIG  
301 EAST FOURTH STREET  
CINCINNATI, OH 45202

## Signatures

S. Craig Lindner By: Karl J. Grafe, as  
Attorney-in-Fact

12/27/2011

\_\_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) Indirect #1: SCL TTEE of the SCL Living Trust DTD 03/30/83.  
The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$36.87 to 37.04, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to American Financial Group, Inc., ("AFG"), any security holder of AFG, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the ranges set forth in footnotes 2 and 3.
- (2) The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$37.02 to 37.29, inclusive.
- (3) Indirect #3: By Frances R. Lindner, Trustee for the Frances R. Lindner living Trust dated 9/13/93. (SCL)
- (4) Indirect #6: FRL, Cust. CFL Under OH Tsfr to Min Act. (SCL)
- (5) Indirect #12: Held in the Company's Retirement and Savings Plan. The number of shares of Common is based on a statement dated as of 12/31/10. (SCL)
- (6) Indirect #23: CFL TR U/A DTD 4/21/05 FRL TTEE (SCL)
- (7) Indirect #24: My Nyhart TTEE Christine CU Trust Agreement dtd 12/14/00.
- (8) Indirect #25: M. Nyhart TTEE CFL 2010 Consolidation Trust DTD 12/17/2010.
- (9) Indirect #26: M. Nyhart TTEE CFL 2010 Special Trust DTD 12/17/10.  
These Employee Stock Options ("Options") become exercisable as to 20% of the shares initially granted on the first anniversary of the date of grant, with an additional 20% becoming exercisable on each subsequent anniversary. The Options were granted under the Issuer's Stock Option Plan pursuant to Rule 16b-3.
- (10) Indirect #26: M. Nyhart TTEE CFL 2010 Special Trust DTD 12/17/10.
- (11) These Employee Stock Options ("Options") become exercisable as to 20% of the shares initially granted on the first anniversary of the date of grant, with an additional 20% becoming exercisable on each subsequent anniversary. The Options were granted under the Issuer's Stock Option Plan pursuant to Rule 16b-3.

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.