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Grensteiner Rona Form 4	ald James									
March 13, 2013										
FORM 4	UNITED S	TATES SECUR Was				NGE (COMMISSION		9PROVAL 3235-0287	
Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. <i>See</i> Instruction 1(b).	Washington, D.C. 20549 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							Expires:January 312005Estimated averageburden hours perresponse0.5		
(Print or Type Respo	onses)									
1. Name and Addres Grensteiner Ron	Symbol AMERIC INVEST	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO [AEL]				5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner				
(Last) 6000 WESTOW		(Month/Da	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/11/2013				X_Officer (give titleOther (specify below) Vice President			
			mendment, Date Original ⁄Ionth/Day/Year)				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting			
		(-)	I Non De			tion A o	Person	f on Donoficial	lly Owned	
1.Title of 2.7	Transaction Date	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of			
Common 03 Stock	3/11/2013		Α	6,553 (1)	A	\$ 0	67,340	D		

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.

 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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. orNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		Date	Amou Unde Secur	le and int of rlying ities . 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secu Bene Owno Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	. ,	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
1	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
Grensteiner Ronald James 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50265			Vice President					
Signatures								
Debra J. Richardson, by Power of Attorney		03/13/201	3					
**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) An award of restricted stock pursuant to the American Equity Investment Life Holding Company 2009 Employee Incentive Plan.

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.