Johnson Ted Morris Form 4 March 13, 2013

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB

Expires:

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OMB APPROVAL

January 31, 2005

0.5

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Check this box

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

See Instruction

1(b).

(Last)

(City)

Common

Stock

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Johnson Ted Morris

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING

CO [AEL]

Symbol

(First) (Middle)

(Month/Day/Year)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

03/11/2013

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

CFO & Treasurer

6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/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

Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

(State)

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3) Code (Instr. 8) (Month/Day/Year)

(Zip)

4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect Beneficial (D) or Indirect (I) Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

D

(A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Price

Code V Amount (D)

03/11/2013

\$0 19,290

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

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

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Derivative	Deriv
Security	Secu
(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Own
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	,

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Johnson Ted Morris 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266			CFO & Treasurer	

Signatures

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of Attorney 03/13/2013

**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).
- (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.

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