Montz Renee Denise Form 4 August 20, 2018

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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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 may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Montz Renee Denise			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)		liddle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)				X Officer (give title Other (specify below) Exec VP-Gen Counsel & Sec				
6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY			08/17/2018								
	(Street)			ndment, Dat th/Day/Year)	e Original			6. Individual or Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by	One Reporting Po	erson	
WEST DES	MOINES, IA 50	266						Person	More than One Ro	eporting	
(City)	(State)	Zip)	Table	I - Non-D	erivative S	Securi	ties Ac	quired, Disposed	of, or Beneficia	lly Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Execution any	med n Date, if Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	Disposed (Instr. 3,	l (A) of (D) 4 and (A) or)) 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)	
Common Stock	08/17/2018			Code V A	Amount 6,000 (1)	(D)	Price \$ 0	17,079	D		
Common								2,808	I	BY ESOP	

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)

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exerc		7. Titl	e and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction	onNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	int of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securi	ities	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Own
	Security				Acquired						Follo
					(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									Amount		
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration	Title	Or		
						Exercisable	ercisable Date				
				C 1 W	(A) (D)				of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
1	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Montz Renee Denise 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266			Exec VP-Gen Counsel & Sec			

Signatures

Renee D. Montz 08/20/2018

**Signature of Person Date

**Reporting Person

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 units pursuant to the American Equity Investment Life Holding Company 2016 Employee Incentive Plan that vests one year from the date of grant.

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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