

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO  
 Form 4  
 October 03, 2006

**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 \*  
 REIMER TERRY A

(Last) (First) (Middle)

5000 WESTOWN PARKWAY,  
 SUITE 440

(Street)

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO [AEL]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 09/26/2006

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director  
 Officer (give title below)  
 \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 Executive Vice President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(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)			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 Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				Code	V	Amount				(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	09/26/2006		M			72,000	A	\$ 3.33	209,622	D	
Common Stock	09/29/2006		M			7,500	A	\$ 4	217,122	D	
Common Stock	09/29/2006		F			48,860	D	\$ 12.114	168,262	D	
Common Stock	09/29/2006		G			2,000	D	\$ 12.114	166,262	D	

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

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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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)				
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Am or Num of S
Options-Right to Buy	\$ 3.33	09/29/2006		M		72,000		12/01/1996	12/01/2006	Common Stock	72
Options-Right to Buy	\$ 4	09/29/2006		M		7,500		06/11/1997	06/11/2007	Common Stock	7,

**Reporting Owners**

**Reporting Owner Name / Address**

**Relationships**

Director      10% Owner      Officer      Other  
Executive  
Vice  
President

REIMER TERRY A  
5000 WESTOWN PARKWAY, SUITE 440  
WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

**Signatures**

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of Attorney      10/03/2006

\_\_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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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