

CARLSON WENDY L

Form 4

March 01, 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 \*  
**CARLSON WENDY L**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY

(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)  
**02/28/2011**

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
 Issuer

(Check all applicable)

☐ Director ☐ 10% Owner  
☒ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify below)  
**President & CEO**

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	02/28/2011		A	(A) or (D) 3,887 (1)	\$ 0 131,617	D	

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

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 information contained in this form are not  
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SEC 1474  
 (9-02)

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

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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)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repor Trans (Instr
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CARLSON WENDY L 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266	X		President & CEO	

## Signatures

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of Attorney  
 03/01/2011  
 \*\*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) An award of restricted stock pursuant to the American Equity Investment Life Holding Company Short-Term Performance Incentive Plan that vests on the third anniversary of 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.

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