

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO  
 Form 4  
 April 12, 2016

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL  
 OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2015  
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 \*  
 Lorenzen Jeffrey D

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  
X Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 Executive VP-Chief Inv Officer

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 04/11/2016

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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**

| 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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock                    | 04/11/2016                           |                                                    | D                              | (A)<br>or<br>(D)<br>1,413<br>(1)                                  | \$ 0 25,582                                                                                   | D                                                        |                                   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |                                                    |                                |                                                                   | 8,122 (2)                                                                                     | I                                                        | By ESOP                           |

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.**

SEC 1474 (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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Nu Deriv Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
|                                            |                                                        |                                      |                                                    |                                |                                                                                         | Date Exercisable                                         | Expiration Date                                               | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares                               |
|                                            |                                                        |                                      |                                                    |                                |                                                                                         | Code                                                     | V (A) (D)                                                     |                                            |                                                          |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                          | Relationships |           |                                |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------|
|                                                                         | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                        | Other |
| Lorenzen Jeffrey D<br>6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY<br>WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266 |               |           | Executive VP-Chief Inv Officer |       |

## Signatures

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of Attorney  
04/12/2016  
 \_\_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) Restricted stock that was canceled by mutual agreement of the reporting person and American Equity Investment Life Holding Company.
- (2) Reflects ESOP allocations that have occurred since the date of the reporting person's last ownership report.

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.