

RLI CORP  
Form 4  
September 23, 2008

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

OMB APPROVAL  
OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
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 \*  
DONDANVILLE JOSEPH E

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
9025 N. LINDBERGH DRIVE  
(Street)

PEORIA, IL 61615

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
RLI CORP [RLI]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
09/22/2008

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)  
Senior Vice President/CFO

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)
			Code	V Amount (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	09/22/2008		M	12,903 A \$ 15.7813	84,312.015 (1)	D	
Common Stock	09/22/2008		M	22,000 A \$ 20.05	106,312.015 (1)	D	
Common Stock	09/22/2008		F	17,285 D \$ 66.61	89,027.015 (1)	D	
Common Stock					8,639.0667	I	By Trust (2)
Common Stock					200	I	By Wife, As Custodian

Common Stock	24,720.3851 I	By Empl. Stock Ownership Plan
--------------	---------------	-------------------------------

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)				
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option	\$ 15.7813	09/22/2008		M		12,903		05/04/2001	05/04/2010	Common Stock	12,903
Stock Option	\$ 20.05	09/22/2008		M		22,000		05/03/2002	05/03/2011	Common Stock	22,000
Stock Option	\$ 54.36							08/01/2009 <sup>(3)</sup>	08/01/2018	Common Stock	5,000
Stock Option	\$ 35.08							05/06/2005	05/06/2014	Common Stock	28,000
Stock Option	\$ 44.54							05/05/2006	05/05/2015	Common Stock	21,000
Stock Option	\$ 29.335							05/02/2003	05/02/2012	Common Stock	32,000
Stock Option	\$ 50							05/01/2009 <sup>(3)</sup>	05/01/2018	Common Stock	5,000
Stock Option	\$ 29.55							05/01/2004	05/01/2013	Common Stock	28,000
Stock Option	\$ 50.15							05/04/2007 <sup>(3)</sup>	05/04/2016	Common Stock	17,500

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
DONDANVILLE JOSEPH E 9025 N. LINDBERGH DRIVE PEORIA, IL 61615			Senior Vice President/CFO	

## Signatures

/s/ Joseph E.  
Dondanville

09/23/2008

\_\_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) Transaction represents exercise of stock options.
- (2) Ownership reflects dividend reinvestment.
- (3) Pursuant to option schedule wherein 20% of the aggregate number of shares granted may be exercised commencing one year from grant date and each year thereafter in 20% increments.

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.