

RICHARDSON DEBRA J

Form 5

February 11, 2013

**FORM 5****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**Check this box if  
no longer subject  
to Section 16.Form 4 or Form  
5 obligations  
may continue.See Instruction  
1(b).Form 3 Holdings  
Reported  
Form 4  
Transactions  
Reported**ANNUAL 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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0362Expires: January 31,  
2005Estimated average  
burden hours per  
response... 1.01. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
RICHARDSON DEBRA J2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
SymbolAMERICAN EQUITY  
INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING  
CO [AEL]5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

☒ Director ☐ 10% Owner  
☒ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify below)

Executive VP &amp; Secretary

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/31/2012

6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY

(Street)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

☒ Form Filed by One Reporting Person  
☐ Form Filed by More than One Reporting  
Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	12/31/2012	Â	A	1,029 A \$ 0 5,170	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 2270  
(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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
					(A) (D)				

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
RICHARDSON DEBRA J 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266	X		Executive VP & Secretary	

Signatures

Debra J.  
Richardson  
02/11/2013  
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 provided 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.