

MCCAUGHAN JAMES P
 Form 4
 February 27, 2003

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* McCaughan, James P. (Last) (First) (Middle) 711 High Street (Street) Des Moines, IA 50392 (City) (State) (Zip)		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Principal Financial Group, Inc. (PFG)		6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <u>Executive Vice President</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)	
		3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (voluntary)		4. Statement for Month/Day/Year February 25, 2003	
				5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)	
				7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> 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 & 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 & 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			

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

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

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FORM 4 (continued) 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)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 & 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
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			(Instr. 3, 4 & 5)		Date Exer-cisable	Expira-tion Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)
			Code	V						
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$27.57	2/25/03	A	80,950	(1)	2/25/13	Common Stock	80,950		D

Explanation of Responses:

(1) The option vests in three equal annual installments beginning February 25, 2004.

By: /s/ **Joyce N. Hoffman**
Attorney-in-Fact

February 27, 2003
 Date

**Signature of Reporting Person

**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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