

GRISWELL J BARRY  
Form 4  
December 19, 2005

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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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 \*  
GRISWELL J BARRY

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC [PFG]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
711 HIGH STREET  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
12/15/2005

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Chairman, President/CEO

DES MOINES, IA 50392

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount  | (A) or (D)   | Price                             |
| Common Stock                    | 12/15/2005                           |  | M <sup>(1)</sup>               |   | 103,800   | A  | \$ 27.48                          |
| Common Stock                    | 12/15/2005                           |  | S <sup>(1)</sup>               |   | 200   | D  | \$ 49.57                          |
| Common Stock                    | 12/15/2005                           |  | S <sup>(1)</sup>               |   | 600   | D  | \$ 49.59                          |
| Common Stock                    | 12/15/2005                           |  | S <sup>(1)</sup>               |   | 200   | D  | \$ 49.6                           |
| Common Stock                    | 12/15/2005                           |  | S <sup>(1)</sup>               |   | 500   | D  | \$ 49.61                          |

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|              |            |             |       |   |          |                    |   |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-------|---|----------|--------------------|---|
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 300   | D | \$ 49.62 | 205,892 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 100   | D | \$ 49.63 | 205,792 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 100   | D | \$ 49.64 | 205,692 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 1,000 | D | \$ 49.65 | 204,692 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 1,000 | D | \$ 49.66 | 203,692 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 1,700 | D | \$ 49.67 | 201,992 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 1,800 | D | \$ 49.68 | 200,192 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 2,100 | D | \$ 49.69 | 198,092 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 2,000 | D | \$ 49.7  | 196,092 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 1,600 | D | \$ 49.71 | 194,492 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 1,400 | D | \$ 49.72 | 193,092 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 1,300 | D | \$ 49.73 | 191,792 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 4,500 | D | \$ 49.74 | 187,292 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 5,400 | D | \$ 49.75 | 181,892 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 5,300 | D | \$ 49.76 | 176,592 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 5,100 | D | \$ 49.77 | 171,492 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 5,100 | D | \$ 49.78 | 166,392 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 8,800 | D | \$ 49.79 | 157,592 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 4,100 | D | \$ 49.8  | 153,492 <u>(2)</u> | D |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 2,100 | D | \$ 49.81 | 151,392 <u>(2)</u> | D |
|              | 12/15/2005 | <u>S(1)</u> | 4,300 | D |          | 147,092 <u>(2)</u> | D |

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|              |            |  |                  |       |       |       |         |       |
|--------------|------------|--|------------------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|
| Common Stock |            |  |                  |       | \$    |       |         |       |
|              |            |  |                  |       | 49.82 |       |         |       |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 |  | S <sup>(1)</sup> | 7,600 | D     | \$    | 139,492 | (2) D |
|              |            |  |                  |       |       | 49.83 |         |       |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 |  | S <sup>(1)</sup> | 2,400 | D     | \$    | 137,092 | (2) D |
|              |            |  |                  |       |       | 49.84 |         |       |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 |  | S <sup>(1)</sup> | 7,400 | D     | \$    | 129,692 | (2) D |
|              |            |  |                  |       |       | 49.85 |         |       |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2005 |  | S <sup>(1)</sup> | 2,200 | D     | \$    | 127,492 | (2) D |
|              |            |  |                  |       |       | 49.86 |         |       |

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

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(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 Number Shares |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)       | \$ 27.48   | 12/15/2005                           |  | M <sup>(1)</sup>               | 103,800   | (3)  | 04/29/2012  | Common Stock | 103,800              |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)       | \$ 27.48   | 12/16/2005                           |  | M <sup>(1)</sup>               | 54,260  | (3)  | 04/29/2012  | Common Stock | 54,260               |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address      | Relationships |           |                            |       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|----------------------------|-------|
|                                     | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                    | Other |
| GRISWELL J BARRY<br>711 HIGH STREET | X             |           | Chairman,<br>President/CEO |       |

DES MOINES, IA 50392

## Signatures

Joyce N. Hoffman, by Power of  
Attorney

12/19/2005

\_\_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) Pursuant to a 10b5-1 plan adopted September 15, 2005, and amended November 9, 2005.
- (2) Includes 2,292 shares acquired pursuant to the Principal Financial Group, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
- (3) The option vested in three equal annual installments beginning April 29, 2003.

### Remarks:

This is the first of two Form 4s filed by the reporting person on the same date.

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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