

REIMER TERRY A
Form 5
February 15, 2011

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: 3235-0362
Expires: January 31,
2005
Estimated average
burden hours per
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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
REIMER TERRY A

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 Vice President

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended
(Month/Day/Year)
12/31/2010

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

__X__ 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)
				(A) or Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â Â Â	169,882	D	Â
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â Â Â	6,388	I	By Spouse
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â Â Â	2,745	I ⁽¹⁾	By ESOP

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

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SEC 2270
(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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
					(A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title Amount or Number of Shares
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 9.27	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	06/11/2013 06/10/2020	Common Stock 27,7
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 10.24	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	03/15/2013 03/14/2016	Common Stock 47,2
Option - Right to Buy	\$ 7	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	05/08/2012 05/08/2019	Common Stock 20,0
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 10.77	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	06/30/2005 12/31/2014	Common Stock 17,5
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 11	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	06/10/2004 06/10/2014	Common Stock 15,0
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 9	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	12/04/2003 12/04/2013	Common Stock 15,0
American Equity Capital Trust I 8% Conv TP	\$ 8.1	Â	Â	Â	Â Â	09/30/2002 09/30/2029	Common Stock 3,7
Deferred Compensation	\$ 3.33	Â	Â	Â	Â Â Â (2) Â (2)		Common Stock 19,8

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
REIMER TERRY A 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266	Â	Â	Â Executive Vice President	Â

Signatures

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of
Attorney

02/11/2011

__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) 690 shares of the total ESOP ownership reported represent an estimated number for the December 31, 2010 allocation.

Deferred compensation payment is exercisable on the 10th business day after the occurrence on any of the following events: (i) action of
(2) the Board of Directors; (ii) written notification of employee's resignation; (iii) employee's termination of employment; (iv) employee's disability; (v) employee's death.

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.