Houston Daniel Joseph Form 4 October 19, 2017

## FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

**OMB APPROVAL OMB** 

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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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

may continue.

See Instruction

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Houston Daniel Joseph |                                      |               | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC [PFG] |  |            |        |            | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to<br>Issuer  (Check all applicable)   |  |   |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------|--|--|------------|--------|------------|---|--|---|
| (Last) 711 HIGH   | (First)                              | (Middle)      | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 10/18/2017                            |  |            |        |            | _X_ Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) Chairman, President & CEO  |  |   |
| Filed   |                                      |               |  | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) |            |        |            | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting |  |   |
| DES MOIN  |                                      |               |  |  |            | Person |            |   |  |   |
| (City)  | (State)                              | (Zip)         | Tab  | le I - Non-  | Derivative | Secur  | ities Acqu | uired, Disposed of  | f, or Beneficial   | ly Owned  |
| 1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)                            | 2. Transaction Da<br>(Month/Day/Year | Execution any | med<br>on Date, if<br>Day/Year)  | 3.<br>Transact<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8)                 |            | (A)    | d of (D)   | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)                      | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
| Common<br>Stock   | 10/18/2017                           |               |  | $M_{}^{(1)}$   | 38,097     | ` ′    | \$ 34.26   | 200,737 (2)   | D  |   |
| Common<br>Stock   | 10/18/2017                           |               |  | S <u>(1)</u>   | 38,097     | D      | \$ 68      | 162,640 (2)   | D  |   |
| Common<br>Stock   |                                      |               |  |  |            |        |            | 3,054   | I  | By 401(k)<br>Plan   |

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

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number.

# Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4. 5. Number of TransactionDerivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) 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<br>Exercisable | Expiration<br>Date  | Title           | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of Share |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy)    | \$ 34.26  | 10/18/2017                           |   | M <u>(1)</u>  |     | 38,097   | 02/28/2014          | 02/28/2021  | Common<br>Stock | 38,097                             |

## **Reporting Owners**

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships |           |                           |       |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| r                              | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                   | Other |  |  |  |
| Houston Daniel Joseph          |               |           |                           |       |  |  |  |
| 711 HIGH STREET                | X             |           | Chairman, President & CEO |       |  |  |  |
| DES MOINES, IA 50392           |               |           |                           |       |  |  |  |

#### **Signatures**

Patrick A. Kirchner, by Power of Attorney 10/19/2017

\*\*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 Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on May 3, 2017.
- (2) Includes 3,258 shares acquired pursuant to the Principal Financial Group, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

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.

Reporting Owners 2