FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

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wasnington, D.C. 20549	OMB APPROVAL			
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP	OMB Number:	3235-0		

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l	OMB Number:	3235-0287							
Estimated average burden									
ı	hours per response:	0.5							

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  Matula Alan David					AN	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO [ AEL ]										all app	olicable) ctor		o Owner
(Last) (First) (Middle) 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 06/01/2017										Office	er (give title v)	Oth belo	er (specify w)
(Street) WEST DES MOINES IA 50266			4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of 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 Person						
(City)	(St	ate) (2	Zip)																
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																			
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Date)				Day/Year) Exec		Execution if any	A. Deemed xecution Date, any Month/Day/Year)				ities Acquired (A d Of (D) (Instr. 3,			4 and Sec Bei		ount of ties cially I Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	of Indirect	
										v	Amount	(	A) or D)	r Price		Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)			(
Common Stock 06/01/2					/2017		A		3,000 <sup>(1)</sup> A		A	\$	\$0		6,220	D			
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)	erivative   Conversion   Date   Execution Date,   T ecurity   or Exercise   (Month/Day/Year)   if any   C			ransaction of ode (Instr. Derivative		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)			7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4)					9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	Ownersh Form: Direct (D) or Indirec (I) (Instr.	Beneficial Ownership t (Instr. 4)			
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisa		Expiration Date	Title	or	nber					

## **Explanation of Responses:**

1. An award of restricted stock that vests one year from the date of grant or on the day of AEL's 2018 annual meeting of the shareholders, whichever is earlier.

## Remarks:

Renee D. Montz, by Power of Attorney

06/01/2017

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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 is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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 Number.