SEC Form 4	
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### FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

# OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average hurden

Estimated average burden	
hours per response:	0.5

1. Name and Addre Clark Alexar	ess of Reporting Person ader Meeker	n*	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT</u> <u>LIFE HOLDING CO</u> [ AEL ]		tionship of Reporting Person all applicable) Director	n(s) to Issuer 10% Owner
(Last) 5000 WESTOV	Last) (First) (Middle)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/27/2009		Officer (give title below)	Other (specify below)
(Street) WEST DES MOINES	ΙΑ	50266	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Indiv Line) X	idual or Joint/Group Filing ( Form filed by One Report Form filed by More than C Person	ing 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)	Transaction Code (Instr.					5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	(D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(iiisti: 4)
Common Stock	08/27/2009		S		5,000	D	\$8.34	15,000	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)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transa Code (l 8)		of Deriv Secu Acqu (A) or Dispo of (D) (Instr	Derivative (Month/Day/Year) Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed		7. Title Amour Securi Underl Deriva Securi and 4)	nt of ties ying tive ty (Instr. 3	Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	v			Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				

Explanation of Responses:

## Debra J. Richardson, By Power 08/28/2009

<u>of Attorney</u>

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

 $^{\ast}$  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.