FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

| Washington, | D.C. | 20549 |  |
|-------------|------|-------|--|
|-------------|------|-------|--|

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:              | OMB Number: 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average burden |                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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).

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  MULCAHY DAVID S. |   |         |  |                                  | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO [ AEL ]  |               |   |  |        |                    |  |  |             | c all app<br>Direc  | tor  | ng Pei  | 10% O | wner  |            |
|--|---|---------|--|----------------------------------|---|---------------|---|--|--------|--------------------|--|--|-------------|---|--|---|-------|---|------------|
| (Last)<br>6000 WE  | (Last) (First) (Middle) 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY  |         |  |                                  |   |               | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/21/2023 |  |        |                    |  |  |             |   | Officer (give title below)   |   |       | Other (<br>below)                                   | specify    |
| (Street) WEST D MOINES                                     | Ι Δ   | 5       | 0266   |                                  | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)  |               |   |  |        |                    |  |  | . Indivine) | ridual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable  Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting  Person |  |   |       |   |            |
| (City)   | (Sta  | ate) (Z | Zip)   |                                  | Rule 10b5-1(c) Transaction Indication  Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10. |               |   |  |        |                    |  |  |             |   |  |   |       |   |            |
|  |   | Table   | I - Nor  | n-Deriva                         | tive S  | Secui         | rities  | Acq  | uired, | Disp               | osed of                                  | , or B   | enefic      | ially   | Own  | ed  |       |   |            |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Da |   |         |  |                                  | Execution Da  |               | Date,   | Code (Instr.   |        |                    |  |  |             | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Following   |  | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) |       | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership |            |
|  |   |         |  |                                  |   |               |   |  | Code   | v                  | Amount                                   | (A) or<br>(D)  |             | e   | Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)                     |   |       |   | (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock 09/21   |   |         |  |                                  | 2023  | G 9,000 D \$0 |   | 119,364  |        |                    | D  |  |             |   |  |   |       |   |            |
|  |   | Tal     |  |                                  |   |               |   |  |        |                    | sed of, o                                |  |             |   | Owned  | t   | ,     |   |            |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)        | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) |         | 5. Nu<br>of<br>Deriv<br>Secu<br>Acqu<br>(A) or<br>Dispo<br>of (D)<br>(Instr<br>and 5 | rities<br>ired<br>osed<br>. 3, 4 | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)  Date Expiration Exercisable Date  |               |   | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Ins<br>3 and 4) |        | Der<br>Sec<br>(Ins | Price of<br>ivative<br>curity<br>str. 5) | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction<br>(Instr. 4) | у           | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4)  | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |   |       |   |            |

Explanation of Responses:

Remarks:

/s/ Mark A. Schuman, authorized signer

09/25/2023

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

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.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

<sup>\*\*</sup> Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).