

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL	
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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* <u>Askelsen Erik H.</u> _____ (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY</u> _____ (Street) <u>WEST DES MOINES IA 50266</u> _____ (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) <u>01/02/2024</u>	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO [AEL]</u>	
		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director _____ 10% Owner _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>EVP & General Counsel</u>	5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) _____ 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
<u>Common Stock</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>D</u>	

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			

Explanation of Responses:

Remarks:

Exhibit List: [Exhibit 24 - Power of Attorney](#)

/s/ Shari Wood, authorized signatory 01/11/2024

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5 (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.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

WHEREAS, the undersigned officer of American Equity Investment Life Holding Company, an Iowa corporation, hereby constitutes and appoints Anant Bhalla, Andrew Taktajian, and/or Shari Wood, their true and lawful attorney and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, in the name of and on behalf of the undersigned, to do any and all acts and things that execute any and all reports of stock ownership on Form 3, Form 4 and/or Form 5, and all such related instruments which such attorneys and agents may deem necessary or advisable to enable American Equity Investment Life Holding Company to comply with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and any rules and regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission in respect thereof, in connection with reports to be filed by certain beneficial owners of securities under Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, including specifically, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the power and authority to sign the name of the undersigned in their capacity as an officer of American Equity Investment Life Holding Company to one or more Forms 3, 4 or 5 to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission with respect thereto, any and all amendments, including post-effective amendments, to such Forms and to any and all instruments and documents filed as part of or in connection with such Forms or amendments thereto; hereby ratifying and confirming all that such agent and attorney has done, shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 4th day of January, 2024.

/s/ Erik H. Askelsen
Erik H. Askelsen