## FORM 5

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL

**OWNERSHIP** 

Washington,	D.C.	20549

shington,	D.C.	20549	

OMB APPROVAL										
OMB Number:	3235-036									

Estimated average burden

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Check this box if no longer subject to

Form 3	Holdings Rep	orted.												ll nours	s per re	esponse.	1.0
_	1 Transactions		Fil	ed pursuant t or Section					urities Excha Company Ac		of 1934						
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>ANDERSON JOHN C</u>				<u>AMEF</u>	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT  LIFE HOLDING CO [ AEL ]						5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  X Director 10% Owner  Officer (give title Other (specify below)						
(Last) (First) (Middle) 5000 WESTOWN PARKWAY, SUITE 440					3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2006												ear)
(Street) WEST DES MOINES IA 50266				4. If Amei	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)	(S	tate)	(Zip)														
		Tab	le I - Non-Deri	vative Sec	curiti	es A	cquire	ed, D	Disposed	of, or E	Beneficia	ally Ov	vned				
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)				Execution I	Execution Date, if any		3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Dispos Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			Secu Bend				rship Inc Direct Be	Nature of direct eneficial wnership
	, , , , ,	ount	(A) or (D)	Price					Issu	ssuer's Fiscal Ind 'ear (Instr. 3 and (Ins		Indire (Instr.	ct (I)   (In	str. 4)			
Common Stock												10,		550 D		D	
		T	able II - Deriva (e.g., p	itive Secu outs, calls			•	,	•	,		y Owr	ed	•			
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	on 3A. Deemed 4. 5. Number 6. Date Exe		ion Da	ate	Amount of			tive d ty S 5) E F F			10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)			
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercis	sable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares						
Options- Right to Buy	\$10.77						06/30/2	2005	12/31/2014	Commor Stock	1,000			1,000		D	
Options- Right to Buy	\$11						06/10/2	2004	06/10/2014	Commor Stock	1,000			1,000		D	
Options- Right to	\$9						12/04/2	2003	12/04/2013	Common	1,000			1,000		D	

**Explanation of Responses:** 

Buy

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of Attorney

02/09/2007

\*\* 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.