

# FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE  
COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL  
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## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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

<b>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *</b>  <b>TALLETT ELIZEBETH E</b>  (Last) (First) (Middle)  <b>711 HIGH STREET</b>  (Street)  <b>DES MOINES, IA 50392</b>  (City) (State) (Zip)	<b>2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</b>  <b>PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC [ PFG ]</b>	<b>5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</b> (Check all applicable)  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <span style="float:right">_____ 10% Owner</span> _____ Officer (give title below) <span style="float:right">_____ Other (specify below)</span>
<b>3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY)</b>  <p align="center"><b>12/28/2012</b></p>		<b>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing</b> (Check Applicable Line)  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person _____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
<b>4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed</b> (MM/DD/YYYY)		

### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Trans. Date	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	3. Trans. Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	12/28/2012		A		207	A	\$0 (1)	28988	D	

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

1. Title of Derivate Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Trans. Date	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Trans. Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Phantom Stock Units	(2)	12/28/2012		A		34.9		(3)	(3)	Common Stock	34.9	\$28.08	4838	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

- (1) Grant of restricted stock units.
- (2) The units convert to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- (3) The reported phantom stock units were acquired pursuant to the Principal Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors and will be settled on the reporting person's retirement.

**Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
<b>TALLETT ELIZEBETH E 711 HIGH STREET DES MOINES, IA 50392</b>	<b>X</b>			

**Signatures**

Joyce N. Hoffman, by Power of Attorney

1/2/2013

\*\* 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 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 control number.