

FORM 4

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

**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

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------|----------|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | |
| Lillis Terrance J. | | | PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC [PFG] | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) EVP & Chief Financial Officer | | |
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY) | | | | | |
| 711 HIGH STREET | | | 7/31/2015 | | | | | |
| (Street) | | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY) | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | |
| DES MOINES, IA 50392 | | | | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | |
| (City) | | | (State) | | | (Zip) | | |

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 | 7/31/2015 | | M (1) | | 3235 | A | \$49.25 | 85089 (2) | D | |
| Common Stock | 7/31/2015 | | S (1) | | 3235 | D | \$55.75 | 81854 (2) | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 40 | I | By 401(k) Plan |

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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|--|----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|-----------------|---|----------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |
| Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$49.25 | 7/31/2015 | | M (1) | 3235 | 2/27/2009 | 2/27/2016 | Common Stock | 3235 | \$0 | 0 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) Pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on May 12, 2015.
- (2) Includes 10,120 shares acquired pursuant to the Principal Financial Group, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|--|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Lillis Terrance J. 711 HIGH STREET DES MOINES, IA 50392 | | | EVP & Chief Financial Officer | |

Signatures

Patrick A. Kirchner, by Power of Attorney

8/3/2015

** 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.