

Grensteiner Ronald James  
 Form 4  
 March 19, 2013

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 Grensteiner Ronald James

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)  
 \_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
X Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 Vice President

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 03/15/2013

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date 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

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction 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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount or Price		
Common Stock	03/15/2013		M		15,000 A \$ 9	82,340	D
Common Stock	03/15/2013		F		3,680 D \$ 14.85	78,660	D
Common Stock	03/15/2013		F		3,668 D \$ 14.86	74,992	D
Common Stock	03/15/2013		F		1,787 D \$ 14.87	73,205	D
Common Stock	03/18/2013		F		1,930 D \$ 14.84	71,275	D

