

Johnson Ted Morris
 Form 4
 April 02, 2013

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2015
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
 Johnson Ted Morris

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
 Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)
 CFO & Treasurer

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 04/01/2013

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 ___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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

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)	(A) or (D)	5. Amount or Price	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)
Common Stock	04/01/2013		M	11,000	A	\$ 9	34,290	D	
Common Stock	04/01/2013		F	145	D	\$ 14.73	34,145	D	
Common Stock	04/01/2013		F	2	D	\$ 14.74	34,143	D	
Common Stock	04/01/2013		F	100	D	\$ 14.76	34,043	D	
Common Stock	04/01/2013		F	1,659	D	\$ 14.77	32,384	D	

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Common Stock	04/01/2013	F	1,670	D	\$ 14.85	30,714	D
Common Stock	04/01/2013	F	3,171	D	\$ 14.87	27,543	D
Common Stock	04/01/2013	F	300	D	\$ 14.88	27,243	D
Common Stock	04/01/2013	F	1,100	D	\$ 14.89	26,143	D

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

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SEC 1474
(9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction 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 (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 9	04/01/2013		M	11,000	06/30/2004 12/04/2013	Common Stock	11,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Johnson Ted Morris 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266			CFO & Treasurer	

Signatures

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of Attorney
04/02/2013

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

* 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.

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