FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

l	OMB APPRO	VAL				
	OMB Number:	3235-0287				
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l	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).

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

1. Name ar	PR	2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC PFG									ationship all appl Direct	,		rson(s) to Iss 10% O					
(Last) (First) (Middle) 711 HIGH STREET							3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 10/07/2016									Officer (give title below)		Other ( below)	specify
(Street) DES MOINES IA 50392					4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ine)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person				
(City) (State) (Zip)															1 0130				
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																			
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Da						ar) E	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		Code (	Transaction Dispose Code (Instr. 5)		ities Acqui d Of (D) (In		and Securiti Benefic		ies Fo cially (D) Following (I)		n: Direct or Indirect nstr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
									Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)		e:e	Transac (Instr. 3	tion(s)		(Instr. 4)	
	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. Deeme Execution if any (Month/Day	Date,	4. Transactio Code (Inst				6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)			7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Secur (Instr. 3 and 4)		De Se (In	Price of rivative curity str. 5)	9. Number derivative Securities Beneficiall Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4)	ly	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				c	Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisab		xpiration ate	Title	Amour or Number of Shares	er					
Phantom Stock	(1)	10/07/2016			A		19.1		(2)		(2)	Common Stock	19.1	,	\$52.26	4,314.7	,	D	

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. The units convert to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- 2. 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.

## Remarks:

<u>Patrick A. Kirchner, by Power of Attorney</u>

10/11/2016

\*\* 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 Number.