

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

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

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0287
Estimated average burden hours per response:	0.5

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>ZIMPLEMAN LARRY D</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>711 HIGH STREET</u>  (Street) <u>DES MOINES IA 50392</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC [ PFG ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) X <u>Executive Vice President</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>09/26/2003</u>	
		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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	09/26/2003		p <sup>(1)</sup>		63	A	\$30.44	3,434	D <sup>(2)</sup>	
Common Stock								4,930	I	By 401(k) Plan

**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 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: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Phantom Stock Units	(3)	09/26/2003		A <sup>(4)</sup>		51.11		(5)	(5)	Common Stock	51.11	\$30.34	2,119.12	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

- Pursuant to 10b5-1 plan adopted July 16, 2003.
- Includes 696 shares acquired pursuant to the Principal Financial Group, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
- Security converts to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- Pursuant to 10b5-1 plan adopted February 27, 2002.
- The reported phantom stock units were acquired pursuant to the Principal Select Savings Excess Plan and may be transferred at any time into another investment alternative under the plan. Interests under the plan will be settled upon the reporting person's retirement or other termination of service.

**Remarks:**

Joyce N. Hoffman, by Power of Attorney      09/29/2003

\*\* 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.