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FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| 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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden

| | | | of Section So(n) of the investment Company Act of 1940 | | | |
|------------------------|---------|----------|---|------------------------|--|--|
| 1. Name and Addre | | Person* | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC [PFG] | | ionship of Reporting Per all applicable) Director Officer (give title | rson(s) to Issuer 10% Owner Other (specify |
| | | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/17/2016 | | below) | below) |
| (Street) DES MOINES | IA | 50392 | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Indiv Line) X | vidual or Joint/Group Fili Form filed by One Re Form filed by More th | eporting Person |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | | | 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) | Code (Inst | | | | | Securities | 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 | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | (1130.4) |
| Common Stock | 05/17/2016 | | Α | | 3,089 | Α | \$0 ⁽¹⁾ | 105,186 ⁽²⁾ | D | |

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. Transa Code (8) | | of | | 6. Date Exerc Expiration Da (Month/Day/Y | 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 | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Grant of restricted stock units.

2. Includes 62,390 shares owned jointly with the reporting person's spouse received in a pro rata distribution from Ginkgo LLC. Prior to said distribution, the reporting person reported indirect ownership of all Principal Financial Group, Inc. Common Stock held by Ginkgo LLC.

Remarks:

Patrick A. Kirchner, by Power 05/19/2016 of Attorney

** 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.

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