FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL |
|--------------|
| |

3235-0287 OMB Number: 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).

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

| | | | | | or | Sectio | n 30(h) |) of the | Ínvestmer | t Con | npany Act | of 1940 | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---------|--|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|-------|------------------|--|----------------|--|--|-------------------------|--|-------|--|---|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Tallett Elizabeth E</u> | | | | | PR | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC [| | | | | | | | | | | cable) | g Per | son(s) to Iss | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 711 HIGH STREET | | | | | 3. 🗅 | PFG] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/04/2015 | | | | | | | | | | | (give title | | Other (s | |
| (Street) DES MOINES IA 50392 (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | 4. If | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | | |
| (City) | (| | (Zip) le I - Nor | n-Deriv | ative | Sec | curitie | es Ac | quired, | Dis | posed | of, or E | Bene | ficial | ly Ow | ned | l | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Da | | | | | | ar) E | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, f any Month/Day/Yea | | Transaction Disposed Code (Instr. 5) | | | ities Acq d Of (D) (| | and Securit Benefic Owned | | es ally Following | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) |) or) | Price | Reporte Transac (Instr. 3 | | tion(s) | | | (Instr. 4) |
| | | Т | able II - | | | | | | uired, D s, optior | | | | | | Own | ed | | | | |
| 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/Da | Date, | | ansaction ode (Instr. | | mber rative rities ired r osed) : 3, 4 | 6. Date Ex Expiration (Month/Da | Date | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Secu (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | 8. Pric Deriva Securi (Instr. | tive ty | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficiall Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4) | ly [| 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Natur of Indired Beneficia Ownersh (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisab | | xpiration ate | Title | or Nu of | umber | | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

(1)

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

09/04/2015

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.

(2)

15.8

Remarks:

Phantom

Stock Units

Patrick A. Kirchner, by Power of Attorney

15.8

\$47.57

09/08/2015

5,770.6

D

** Signature of Reporting Person

Commor

Stock

(2)

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.