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FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| Check this box if no longer subject to |
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| 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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

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| 1. Name and Addres | ss of Reporting Perso AEL T | on* | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC FFG | | tionship of Reporting Perso all applicable) Director | rson(s) to Issuer 10% Owner Other (specify below) |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|---|------------------------|---|--|
| (Last) 711 HIGH STRI | (First) EET | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 06/29/2018 | | Officer (give title below) | |
| (Street) DES MOINES (City) | IA (State) | 50392 (Zip) | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Indiv Line) X | idual or Joint/Group Filing Form filed by One Repor Form filed by More than Person | ting 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. Transactior Code (Instr. 8) | | | | | Securities Beneficially | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership |
|---------------------------------|--|---|---|---|--------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock | 06/29/2018 | | Α | | 222 | Α | \$0 ⁽¹⁾ | 27,784 | 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 E | | 6. Date Exerc Expiration Da (Month/Day/Y | ate | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) y | 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 | | | | |
| Phantom Stock Units | (2) | 06/29/2018 | | A | | 75 | | (3) | (3) | Common Stock | 75 | \$52.95 | 8,146.9 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

1 Grant of restricted stock units

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

3. 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:

Patrick A. Kirchner, by Power 07/03/2018

of Attorney

** Signature of Reporting Person

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.

Date