FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | | | | | | | |
| Estimated average burd | en | | | | | | | |
| 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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* OKEEFE MARY A | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC | | | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner | | | | | |
|--|--|------------|--|------------------------------------|-------|---|----------------------|--|---|--------|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| | | | | | | | PFG] | | | | | | | | | (give title | | Other (| specify | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 711 HIGH STREET | | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/04/2005 | | | | | | | | | X Officer (give title Offier (specify below) below) Sr. VP & Chief Mktg. Off. | | | | | |
| (Street) | | | | | 4. If | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | | |
| DES MOINES IA 50392 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | X Form filed by One Reporting Person | | | | | | |
| (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 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. Transac Date (Month/Date) | | | | | | Execution Da | | | e, Transaction Dispose Code (Instr. 5) | | | ities Acquii d Of (D) (In: | | and Securiti Benefic Owned | | ies Form cially (D) Following (I) (I | | n: Direct or Indirect nstr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | |
| | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | | ce | Reporte Transac (Instr. 3 | ction(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) | Derivative Conversion Date Execution Date, T Security or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any C | | | Transaction Of Del See Acc (A) Dis | | | osed) :. 3, 4 | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | D S (I | Price of erivative ecurity nstr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s (Instr. 4) | | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | | epiration | Title | Amou or Numb of Share | er | | | | | | |
| Phantom Stock Units | (1) | 11/04/2005 | | | A | | 18.6 | | (2) | | (2) | Common Stock | 18. | 6 | \$50.37 | 4,297 | | D | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Security converts to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- 2. 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:

<u>Joyce N. Hoffman, by Power</u> <u>of Attorney</u>

11/08/2005

** 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.