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 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 Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  GELATT DANIEL |  |                     |   |       | PR          | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC PFG ] |      |                                      |  |  |                     |   |                                |     |  | ll app<br>Dired   | plicable)   |   | Person(s) to Issuer  10% Owner  Other (specify                          |  |
|---|--|---------------------|---|-------|-------------|--|------|--------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------|---|--------------------------------|-----|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 711 HIGH STREET                 |  |                     |   |       |             | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/25/2016                            |      |                                      |  |  |                     |   |                                |     |  | below)  |   | below)  |   |  |
| (Street) DES MO (City)                                  |  |                     | 50392<br>Zip)                                 |       | 4. If       | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                               |      |                                      |  |  |                     |   |                                |     | . Individine)                            | vidual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable  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 |                     |   |       |             |  |      |                                      |  |  |                     |   |                                |     |  |   |   |   |   |  |
|   |  |                     | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year)    |       | ar)   I     | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year)                            |      | Transaction Disposed Code (Instr. 5) |  | rities Acquired (A<br>ed Of (D) (Instr. 3, |                     |   | , 4 and Secur<br>Benef<br>Owne |     | cially<br>I Following                    | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4)   |   | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership |   |  |
|   |  |                     |   |       |             |  |      | Code                                 | v  | Amount                                     | unt (A) or P        |   | Pric                           | , l | Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) |   |   |   | (Instr. 4)  |  |
| Common Stock  |  |                     |   | 03/25 | 03/25/2016  |  |      |                                      |  |  | 382                 | 382   |                                | \$( | )(1)                                     | 39,707  |   |   | D   |  |
| Common Stock  |  |                     |   |       |             |  |      |                                      |  |  |                     |   |                                |     |  | 331,506   |   |   | I   | By<br>Ginkgo<br>LLC  |
|   |  | Та                  | ıble II - C                                   |       |             |  |      |                                      |  |  | sed of,<br>onvertib |   |                                |     |  | ned   |   | •   |   |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)     | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security            | se (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deeme<br>Execution<br>if any<br>(Month/Da | Date, | Code (Instr |  | n of |                                      | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |  |                     | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr.<br>and 4) |                                |     | 8. Prio<br>Deriva<br>Secur<br>(Instr.    | ative rity  | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction<br>(Instr. 4) | F<br>C<br>C   | DO.<br>Dwnership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|   |  |                     |   |       | Code        | v  | (A)  | (D)                                  | Date<br>Exercisa   |  | Expiration<br>Date  | Title   | Amo<br>or<br>Num<br>of<br>Sha  | ber |  |   |   |   |   |  |

## Explanation of Responses:

Grant of restricted stock units.

## Remarks:

<u>Patrick A. Kirchner, by Power of Attorney</u>

03/29/2016

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

 $Reminder: Report \ on \ a \ separate \ line \ for \ each \ class \ of \ securities \ beneficially \ owned \ directly \ or \ indirectly.$ 

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.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

<sup>\*\*</sup> Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).