Pricing Supplement Dated 8/25/2008 (To Prospectus dated November 21, 2007, and Prospectus Supplement dated November 21, 2007) Filed pursuant to [X] Rule 424(b)(2) [ ] Rule 424(b)(5) Registration Statement No. 333-147181 and 333-147181-01

CUSIP: 74254PZH8



Principal Life Insurance Company
Principal® Life (Callable) (That are also Asset-Backed Securities) Issued Through and Obligations of
Principal Life Income 2008-77 (the "Trust" and "Issuing Entity")

The description of this pricing supplement of the particular terms of the Principal® Life offered hereby, and the Funding Agreement (specified below) issued by Principal Life Insurance Company ("Principal Life") to the Trust, the payment obligations of which are fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the Guarantee (specified below) issued by Principal Financial Group, Inc. to the Trust, supplements the description of the general terms and provisions of the notes, the funding agreements and the guarantees set forth in the accompanying prospectus and prospectus supplement, to which reference is hereby made..

## 1. The Notes

| Principal Amount:   | TBD                                 | Purchasing Agent Discount:   | 1.500%    |  |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|-----------|--|
| Issue Price:  | 100.0%                              | Original Issue Date:   | 9/4/2008  |  |
| Net Proceeds to the Trust:  | TBD                                 | Stated Maturity Date:  | 9/17/2018 |  |
| Interest Payment Dates:   | The 15th day of e                   | very sixth month commencing on 03/15/2009                              |           |  |
| Initial Interest Payment Date:  | 3/15/2009                           |  |           |  |
| Regular Record Date:  | 15 calendar days                    | prior to the Interest Payment Date                                     |           |  |
| Type of Interest Rate:  | [X] Fixed Rate                      | [] Floating Rate   |           |  |
| Interest Rate:  | 5.85%                               |  |           |  |
| Discount Note:  | [ ]Yes                              | [X] No   |           |  |
| Terms of Survivor's Option: Annual Put Limitation: Individual Put Limitation: Trust Put Limitation: |                                     | [X] \$2,000,000 or 2%; or [] \$ or% [x] \$250,000; or [] \$ [X] 2%; or |           |  |
| Redemption Provisions:<br>Initial Redemption Date:<br>Redemption:<br>Additional Other Terms:        | [ ] May be in who Any redemption of |  |           |  |
| Repayment:  | [ ]Yes                              | [X] No.  |           |  |
|   | \$1,000                             |  |           |  |

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The Notes issued under the Program are rated AA by Standard & Poor's ("S&P").

Principal Life expects the Notes to be rated Aa2 by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's").

Purchasing Agent(s) Purchasing Notes as

[X] Yes

[]No

If Yes,

Principal:

| Purchasing Agent(s) | Principal Amount |  |  |
|---------------------|------------------|--|--|
| Merrill Lynch       | TBD              |  |  |
| Total:              | TBD              |  |  |

State of Organization of the

Trust:

New York

Additional/Other Terms:

None

## 2. The Funding Agreement

Funding Agreement Issuer:

Principal Life Insurance Company

Funding Agreement No.:

4-55666

Deposit:

\$15.0

Net Deposit:

**TBD** 

Effective Date:

9/4/2008

Stated Maturity Date:

9/17/2018

**Interest Payment Dates:** 

The 15th day of every sixth month commencing on 03/15/2009

**Initial Interest Payment Date:** 

3/15/2009

Type of Interest Rate:

[X] Fixed Rate

[] Floating Rate

Interest Rate:

5.85%

[]Yes

Discount Funding Agreement:

[X] No

Terms of Survivor's Option:

Annual Put Limitation:

[X] \$2,000,000 or 2%; or

[] \$\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_%

**Individual Put Limitation:** 

[]\$\_

Trust Put Limitation:

[X] 2%; or

[x] \$250,000; or

|   | Redemption:     Initial Redemption Date:     Redemption:  Additional Other Terms: | [] May be in v | [] No.  nly and not in part  on date will be an | If Yes,<br>rt<br>Interest Payment Date falling on | or after the Initial Redempti |
|---|---|----------------|---|---|-------------------------------|
|   | Repayment:  | [ ]Yes         | [X] No.   |   |                               |
|   | Ratings:  |                |   |   |                               |
| The Funding Agreement issued under the Program is rated AA by S&P. Principal Life expects the Funding Agreement to be rated Aa2 by Moody's. |   |                |   |   |                               |
|   | Additional/Other Terms:   |                | None  |   |                               |
|   | 3. The Guarantee  |                |   |   |                               |
|   | Guarantee Issuer:   |                | Principal Fina                                  | icial Group, Inc.                                 |                               |
|   | Effective Date:   |                | 9/4/2008  |   |                               |
|   | Additional/Other Terms:   |                | None  |   |                               |
|   |   |                |   |   |                               |