FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

l	OMB APPRO	VAL
	OMB Number:	3235-0287
l	Estimated average burd	en
l	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

	nd Address of Timothy	Reporting Person*  Mark	<u>P</u>	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC PFG ]								Check all	appli irecto	cable) or (give title	g Pers	son(s) to Iss 10% Ov Other (s below)	vner		
I						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/24/2017								EVP & Chief Investment Officer					
(Street) DES MOINES IA 50392					4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ine)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person						
(City) (State) (Zip)																			
		Tab	le I - Non-D	Derivativ	/e Se	curitie	es A	cquired, D	ispo	sed o	of, or Be	enefici	ally Ov	nec	t c				
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Date)						Execution Date			Code (Instr.   5)				4 and Securit Benefic Owned Report		ies Form cially (D) ( Following (I) (I		n: Direct r Indirect istr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
								Code	/ A	mount	nt (A) or (D) F		Tra (In	nsac str. 3	action(s) 3 and 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)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Code	Transaction Code (Instr.		rative rities ired rosed ) . 3, 4	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		and	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Secur (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Pric Deriva Securi (Instr.	tive ty	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	,	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	e v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expir Date	ation	Title	Amount or Number of Shares							
Phantom Stock Units	(1)	02/24/2017		A		5.4		(2)	(2	2)	Common Stock	5.4	\$62.	75	6,207		D		

## Explanation of Responses:

- 1. The units convert to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- 2. Acquired pursuant to the Principal Financial Group, Inc. Select Savings Excess Plan and may be transferred at any time into another investment alternative under that 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 of Attorney

02/27/2017

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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.