

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC  
 Form 3  
 May 16, 2008

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104  
 Expires: January 31, 2005  
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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,  
 Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section  
 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*

JOSEPH GREGORY G  
 (Last) (First) (Middle)

ONE EAST FOURTH STREET, SUITE 919

(Street)

CINCINNATI, OH 45202

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement

(Month/Day/Year)  
 05/15/2008

3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC [AFG]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer  Other  
 (give title below) (specify below)

5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	4,925	D	^
Common Stock	50,424	I	#1 (1)
Common Stock	3,000	I	#2 (2)
Common Stock	7,500	I	#3 (3)

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**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 control number.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date <small>(Month/Day/Year)</small>	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date  Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
JOSEPH GREGORY G ONE EAST FOURTH STREET SUITE 919 CINCINNATI, OH 45202	X			

## Signatures

Gregory G. Joseph By: Karl J. Grafe, as  
Attorney-in-Fact

05/16/2008

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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).

- (1) Indirect #1: Held by a company in which the Reporting Person is a minority shareholder and for which he serves as an executive officer.
- (2) Indirect #2: Held by a company in which the Reporting Person is a minority shareholder and for which he serves as an executive officer.
- (3) Indirect #3: Held by a company in which the Reporting Person is a minority shareholder and for which he serves as an executive officer.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *See* Instruction 6 for procedure.  
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