

Neugent Gerard D.
Form 3
August 27, 2010

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
Number: 3235-0104
Expires: January 31,
2005
Estimated average
burden hours per
response... 0.5

**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)

<p>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *</p> <p>Â Neugent Gerard D.</p> <p>(Last) (First) (Middle)</p> <p>6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY</p> <p>(Street)</p> <p>WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266</p> <p>(City) (State) (Zip)</p>	<p>2. Date of Event Requiring Statement</p> <p>(Month/Day/Year)</p> <p>08/17/2010</p>	<p>3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</p> <p>AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO [AEL]</p> <p>4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</p> <p>(Check all applicable)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (give title below) (specify below)</p>	<p>5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)</p> <p>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person</p>
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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	400	D	Â
Common Stock	27,800	I ⁽¹⁾	Shares are owned by a trust to which Mr. Neugent is Trustee.

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of	5. Ownership Form of Derivative	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Derivative Security	Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
American Equity Capital Trust I 8% Conv TP	09/30/2002	09/30/2029	Common Stock	4,000	\$ 10	I ⁽¹⁾	Owned by a trust to which Mr. Neugent is Trustee

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Neugent Gerard D. 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266	X	X	X	X

Signatures

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of
Attorney

08/27/2010

____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) These shares are owned by a trust to which Mr. Neugent is a trustee.

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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