

MISCHELL THOMAS E  
Form 4  
October 28, 2011

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN 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 \*  
MISCHELL THOMAS E

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
ONE EAST FOURTH STREET  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
10/27/2011

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Sr. V.P. - Taxes

CINCINNATI, OH 45202

4. 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

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (D) Price  |   |  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 10/27/2011                           |  | M                              | 52,500 A \$ 20.0067   | 220,744   | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 10/27/2011                           |  | S                              | 52,500 D \$ 36.2357 (1)   | 168,244   | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 21,568  | I  | ESPP (2)  |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 47,516.0806   | I  | 401(k) (3)  |

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

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(9-02)

**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) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Stock Option Exercise                      | \$ 20.0067   | 10/27/2011                           |  | M                              | 52,500  | <sup>(4)</sup> 02/27/2014                                | Common Stock  | 52,500                        |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                      | Relationships |           |                  |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer          | Other |
| MISCHELL THOMAS E<br>ONE EAST FOURTH STREET<br>CINCINNATI, OH 45202 |               |           | Sr. V.P. - Taxes |       |

## Signatures

Thomas E. Mischell By: Karl J. Grafe, as Attorney-in-Fact 10/28/2011

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* 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).
- (1) The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$36.04 to \$36.44, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to American Financial Group, Inc., ("AFG"), any security holder of AFG, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the ranges set forth in footnote (1) to this Form 4.
- (2) Shares owned by the reporting Person in the Issuer's Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "ESPP"). All ESPP information reporting herein is based on a plan statement dated as of 12/31/2010.
- (3) Represents amounts held by the Reporting Person in the Issuer's retirement plan. Each share is the economic equivalent of one share of common stock. Upon termination of employment or earlier, if so elected, the Reporting Person's account balance may be distributed, at the option of the Issuer, either in case or in shares of the Issuer's common stock.

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- These Employee Stock Options ("Options") become exercisable as to 20% of the shares initially granted on the first anniversary of the
- (4) date of grant, with an additional 20% becoming exercisable on each subsequent anniversary. The Options were granted under the Issuer's Stock Option Plan pursuant to Rule 16b-3.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.