(City)

## FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

#17(14)

713

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

(State)

(qiZ)

# Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person\* (Check all applicable) AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC **LINDNER CARL H III**  $\mathbf{x}$ Director 10% Owner AFG ] Officer (give title Other (specify X below) (Last) (First) (Middle) below) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Co-President ONE EAST FOURTH STREET 03/29/2005 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable (Street) **CINCINNATI** 45202 OH Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(111311.4)
Common Stock								0(1)	D	
Common Stock	02/22/2005		G	V	23,887	D	\$0.00	3,802,109(1)	I	#1 <sup>(2)</sup>
Common Stock	03/17/2005		G	V	6,473	D	\$0.00	3,795,636	I	#1 <sup>(2)</sup>
Common Stock	03/29/2005		М		267,210	A	\$24.0628	4,062,846	I	#1 <sup>(2)</sup>
Common Stock	03/29/2005		F		209,576	D	\$30.68	3,853,270	I	#1 <sup>(2)</sup>
Common Stock								19,826	I	#2 <sup>(3)</sup>
Common Stock								1,924	I	#4(4)
Common Stock								509,873	I	#5 <sup>(5)</sup>
Common Stock								81,219	I	#6(6)
Common Stock								20,576	I	#8 <sup>(7)</sup>
Common Stock								21,289	I	#9 <sup>(8)</sup>
Common Stock								713	I	#10 <sup>(9)</sup>
Common Stock								287,648	I	#11(10)
Common Stock								1,000,000	I	#12 <sup>(8)</sup>
Common Stock								21,299	I	#13(11)
Common Stock								1,584	I	#14 <sup>(10)</sup>
Common Stock								10	I	#15(12)
Common Stock								21,289	I	#16(13)

### Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) 1. Title of 3. Transaction 3A. Deemed 5. Number of 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and Amount 8. Price of 9. Number of 11. Nature 10. Derivative Security (Instr. 3) Derivative Securities Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) of Indirect Beneficial Conversion **Execution Date** Transaction of Securities Derivative derivative Ownership Underlying Derivative Security or Exercise Price of Code (Instr. 8) Form: Direct (D) (Month/Day/Year) Security (Instr. 5) Securities if any (Month/Day/Year) Acquired (A) Beneficially Ownership or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Derivative (Instr. 3 and 4) Owned (Instr. 4) Following Reported Security Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) Amount Number of Shares Date Exercisable Expiration Date (D) Title Code (A) Stock \$24.0628 03/29/2005 267,210 (15) 04/10/2005 D 267,210 Stock

### **Explanation of Responses:**

Common Stock

- 1. The Reporting Person transferred 713 shares of AFG common stock to Indirect #1.
- 2. Indirect #1: By Carl H. Lindner III, For the Second Amended & Restated Carl H. Lindner III Family Trust Dated 3/11/94.
- $3.\ Indirect\ \#2:\ By\ Martha\ S.\ Lindner\ (Spouse),\ Trustee\ For\ the\ Second\ Amended\ and\ Restated\ Marth\ S.\ Lindner\ Family\ Trust\ dated\ 3/11/94.$
- 4. Indirect #4: Allocated to the Reporting Person's account in the Issuer's Retirement and Savings Plan (401(k) Plan"), based on a 401(k) Plan statement dated as of 12/31/04.
- 5. Indirect #5: By Keith E. Lindner, Trustee under an Irrevocable Trust Indenture with Carl H. Lindner III dated 11/1/82.
- 6. Indirect #6: By Keith E. Lindner, Trustee under an Irrevocable Trust Indenture with Carl H. Lindner III dated 7/1/83.

- 7. Indirect #8: By Keith E. Lindner, Trustee under an Irreovocable Trust Indenture with Carl H. Lindner III and Martha S. Lindner dated 10/23/84.
- 8. Indirect #12: CHL Investments, LLC, a limited liability company directly or indirectly wholly-owned by the Reporting Person.
- 9. Indirect #10: By Keith E. Lindner, Trustee under an irrevocable Trust Indenture with Carl H. Lindner III and Martha S. Lindner dated 9/26/89.
- 10. Indirect #14: Carl H. Lindner III. custodian of a minor.
- 11. Indirect #13: Daughter of Reporting Person
- 12. Indirect #15: Son of Reporting Person.
- 13. Indirect #16: Son of Reporting Person.
- 14. Indirect #17: Spouse of Reporting Person.
- 15. These Employee Stock Options ("Options") become exercisable as to 20% of the shares initially granted on the first anniversary of the 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. Initial date of grant was 2/12/92.
- 16. The Reporting Person exercised this option using previously held shares of the issuer.

### Remarks:

Carl H. Lindner III By: James

C. Kennedy, as Attorney-in-03/30/2005

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

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

- \* 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.