

LINDNER S CRAIG  
Form 4  
February 28, 2005

**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 \*  
LINDNER S CRAIG

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)  
02/24/2005

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

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		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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)			
Common Stock	02/09/2005		G	V	713	A	\$ 0 713	D	
Common Stock							3,541,392 <sup>(1)</sup>	I	#1 <sup>(2)</sup>
Common Stock							557,340 <sup>(1)</sup>	I	#2 <sup>(3)</sup>
Common Stock							50,000	I	#3 <sup>(4)</sup>
Common Stock	02/09/2005		G	V	713	A	\$ 0 14,606	I	#4 <sup>(5)</sup>

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Common Stock	02/09/2005	G	V	713	A	\$ 0	14,606	I	#5 <sup>(6)</sup>
Common Stock	02/09/2005	G	V	713	A	\$ 0	14,606	I	#6 <sup>(7)</sup>
Common Stock	02/09/2005	G	V	713	A	\$ 0	14,606	I	#7 <sup>(8)</sup>
Common Stock							96,881	I	#8 <sup>(9)</sup>
Common Stock							680,029	I	#9 <sup>(10)</sup>
Common Stock							1,000,000	I	#10 <sup>(3)</sup>
Common Stock	02/09/2005	G	V	713	A	\$ 0	713	I	#11 <sup>(4)</sup> <sup>(11)</sup>
Common Stock							948	I	401-k <sup>(12)</sup>

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)		
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option	\$ 30.42	02/24/2005		A	55,000	<sup>(13)</sup>	04/27/2015	Common Stock	55,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

LINDNER S CRAIG  
ONE EAST FOURTH STREET X Co-President  
CINCINNATI, OH 45202

## Signatures

S. Craig Lindner By: Karl J. Grafe, as  
Attorney-in-Fact 02/28/2005

\_\_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) On January 3, 2005, Indirect #2 transferred 86,071 shares of AFG common stock to Indirect #1.
- (2) Indirect #1: By S. Craig Lindner, Trustee for the S. Craig Lindner Living Trust dated 3/30/83.
- (3) Indirect #2: Malott Nyhart, Trustee of the SCL 1996-2 Qualified Annuity Trust dated 3/28/96.
- (4) Indirect #3: By Frances R. Lindner (spouse), Trustee for the Frances R. Lindner Living Trust dated 9/13/93.
- (5) Indirect #4: SCL, Jr. Trustee, SCL 2001 Living Trust DTD 12/26/01.
- (6) Indirect #5: Corinne E. Lindner, TTEE, CEL 2002 Living Trust DTD 11/14/02.
- (7) Indirect #6: By Frances R. Lindner (spouse), Custodian for minor child.
- (8) Indirect #7: By Frances R. Lindner (spouse), Custodian for minor child.
- (9) Indirect #8: By Keith E. Lindner, Trustee under an Irreocable Trust Indenture with Frances R. Lindner dated 2/13/85.
- (10) Indirect #9: KEL, TTEE Under an Irrev. Trust Ind. with SCL DTD 12/22/83.
- (11) Indirect #11: Frances R. Lindner
- (12) Total as of 12/31/2004.

- These Employee Stock Options ("Options") become exercisable as to 20% of the shares initially granted on the first anniversary of the
- (13) 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.