PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC

Form 4

October 26, 2004

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Check this box if no longer STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to **SECURITIES** Section 16. Form 4 or

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 See Instruction

1(b).

(Last)

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obligations

may continue.

(Print or Type Responses)

711 HIGH STREET

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * ZIMPLEMAN LARRY D

(First)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP

INC [PFG]

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

10/22/2004

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Middle)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

OMB

Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

Director 10% Owner

X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)

President, Ret. & Invst. Svcs.

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line) _X_ 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 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3)

DES MOINES, IA 50392

Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial (T)

Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

Reported (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

1. Title of 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Security or Exercise any

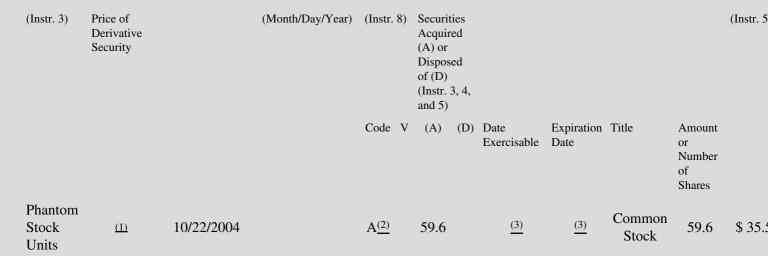
5. Number Transactionof Code Derivative

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of 8. Price Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)

Derivat Security

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

ZIMPLEMAN LARRY D 711 HIGH STREET DES MOINES, IA 50392

President, Ret. & Invst. Svcs.

Signatures

Joyce N. Hoffman, by Power of Attorney 10/26/2004

**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) Security converts to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- (2) Pursuant to 10b5-1 plan adopted February 27, 2002.

The reported phantom stock units were acquired pursuant to the Principal Select Savings Excess Plan and may be transferred at any time into another investment alternative under the plan. Interests under the plan will be settled upon the reporting person's retirement or other termination of services.

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.

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