

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO  
Form 8-K  
December 23, 2004

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

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): **December 23, 2004**

**AMERICAN EQUITY**  
**INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING COMPANY**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

**IOWA**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

**001-31911**  
(Commission File Number)

**42-1447959**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**5000 Westown Parkway, Suite 440, West Des Moines, Iowa**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**50266**  
(Zip Code)

**(515) 221-0002**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**NOT APPLICABLE**

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(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

**Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:**

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

**Item 8.01 Other Events**

On December 23, 2004, American Equity Investment Life Holding Company (the Company ) issued a press release announcing that the Company issued \$20.62 million of floating-rate trust preferred securities in a trust preferred transaction. This press release is filed as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report and incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(a) Financial Statements

Not applicable.

(b) Pro Forma Financial Information

Not applicable.

(c) Exhibits:

99.1 Press Release, dated December 23, 2004.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: December 23, 2004

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT  
LIFE HOLDING COMPANY

By:                   /s/ Wendy L. Carlson  
Wendy L. Carlson  
Chief Financial Officer  
and General Counsel

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

**Exhibit  
Number**

99.1 Press Release, dated December 23, 2004.