MATHRANI ARJUN K

Form 4

December 06, 2011

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

0.5

January 31, Expires: 2005

OMB APPROVAL

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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 may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

| MATHRANI ARJUN K Symbol PRIN | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP NC [PFG] | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|---|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| (Last) 711 HIGH S | | (Mo | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/02/2011 | | | _X_ Director Officer (gives below) | | 6 Owner er (specify | | |
| | | | If Amendment, Da led(Month/Day/Year | amendment, Date Original Month/Day/Year) | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person | | |
| DES MOINES, IA 50392 | | | | | | | Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | |
| (City) | (State) | Zip) | Table I - Non-D | erivative S | Securi | ties Ac | quired, Disposed | of, or Beneficia | lly Owned | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Da any (Month/Day/ | Date, if Transacti Code | 4. Securi onAcquirec Disposec (Instr. 3, | l (A) o l of (D |) 5) Price | 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) | |
| Common Stock | 12/02/2011 | | A | 603 | A | $\$ 0$ $\frac{(1)}{(1)}$ | 21,523 | D | | |

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

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

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| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | Code | ` , | | Date | (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Pric Deriva Securi (Instr. |
|---|---|---|--------|---------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|--|--|
| | | | Code V | (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | |
| Phantom Stock Units | (2) | 12/02/2011 | A | 288.2 | (3) | (3) | Common Stock | 288.2 | \$ 24 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|--|--|--|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |
| MATHRANI ARJUN K 711 HIGH STREET DES MOINES, IA 50392 | X | | | | | | |

Signatures

Joyce N. Hoffman, by Power of Attorney 12/06/2011

**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) Grant of restricted stock units.
- (2) Security converts to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- (3) The reported phantom stock units were acquired pursuant to the Principal Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors and will be settled on the reporting person's retirement.

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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