Maestri Luca Form 3 February 02, 2012

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

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Expires: 2005 Estimated average

burden hours per response...

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 *

Maestri Luca

711 HIGH STREET

(Last)

(First) (Middle)

(Street)

Statement

(Month/Day/Year)

02/01/2012

2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC [PFG]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

5. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Check all applicable)

_X__ Director 10% Owner Officer Other (give title below) (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group

Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person

Form filed by More than One

Reporting Person

DES MOINES. IAÂ 50392

(City) (State)

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)

(Zip)

2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

(Instr. 4)

(I) (Instr. 5)

Ownership Form:

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

Direct (D) or Indirect

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

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 control number.

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

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

3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying **Derivative Security** (Instr. 4)

Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security

4.

5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

Expiration Date

Exercisable Date

Amount or Title Number of Shares

Direct (D) or Indirect (I)

(Instr. 5)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Maestri Luca

711 HIGH STREET $\hat{A} X \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A}$

DES MOINES, IAÂ 50392

Signatures

Joyce N. Hoffman, by Power of Attorney 02/02/2012

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

No securities are beneficially owned

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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. 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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