

# FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL  
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[ X ] 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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

|   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * |  | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol            |  | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  |  |
| <b>LAWLER JULIA M</b>                     |  | <b>PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC</b><br><b>[ PFG ]</b> |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)<br><b>EVP &amp; Chief Risk Officer</b> |  |
| (Last) (First) (Middle)                   |  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY)           |  |  |  |
| <b>711 HIGH STREET</b>                    |  | <b>3/1/2019</b>  |  |  |  |
| (Street)                                  |  | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY)      |  | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  |  |
| <b>DES MOINES, IA 50392</b>               |  |  |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br><input type="checkbox"/> 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. Trans. Date | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 3. Trans. Code (Instr. 8) |     | 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----|---|------------|---------|---|--|---|
|                                 |                |                                   | Code                      | V   | Amount  | (A) or (D) | Price   |   |  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 3/1/2019       |                                   | S                         | (1) | 1000  | A          | \$52.38 | 59920 (2)   | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    |                |                                   |                           |     |   |            |         | 1277  | I  | By 401(k) Plan  |

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

| 1. Title of Derivate Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Trans. Date | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Trans. 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 |     | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |                 | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|--|----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---|--|---|-----|---|-----------------|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |                |                                   | Code                      | V |  | (A)                                     | (D) | Date Exercisable  | Expiration Date |  |  |  |  |

### Explanation of Responses:

- (1) Pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on February 2, 2018 and modified on November 7, 2018.
- (2) Includes 817 shares acquired pursuant to the Principal Financial Group, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

### Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                                     |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                             | Other |
| <b>LAWLER JULIA M</b><br><b>711 HIGH STREET</b><br><b>DES MOINES, IA 50392</b> |               |           | <b>EVP &amp; Chief Risk Officer</b> |       |

### Signatures

**Patrick A. Kirchner, by Power of Attorney**

**3/4/2019**

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

\* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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.