

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
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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) | |
| LAWLER JULIA M | | PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC [PFG] | | <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) EVP & Chief Risk Officer | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 711 HIGH STREET | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY) 12/28/2018 | | | |
| (Street) DES MOINES, IA 50392 | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY) | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | |
| (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | |

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 | 12/28/2018 | | A | | 688 | A | \$0 (1) | 62920 (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 | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |
| Phantom Stock Units | (3) | 12/28/2018 | | A | | 63.9 | | (4) | (4) | Common Stock | 63.9 | \$43.56 | 5215.1 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

- Grant of restricted stock units.
- Includes 817 shares acquired pursuant to the Principal Financial Group, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
- The units convert to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- Acquired pursuant to the Principal Financial Group, Inc. Select Savings Excess Plan and may be transferred at any time into another investment alternative under that plan. Interests under the plan will be settled upon the reporting person's retirement or other termination of service.

Reporting Owners

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

Signatures

Patrick A. Kirchner, by Power of Attorney

1/2/2019

** 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.

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