

**FORM 5**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0362
Estimated average burden hours per response:	1.0

- Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).
- Form 3 Holdings Reported.
- Form 4 Transactions Reported.

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* <u>LINDNER CARL H</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>ONE EAST FOURTH STREET</u>  (Street) <u>CINCINNATI OH 45202</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC [ AFG ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chairman of the Board</b></p>
	3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) <u>12/31/2004</u>	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock							8,985,942.8135	I	Indirect #1 <sup>(1)</sup>
Common Stock							349,401.0073	I	Indirect #2 <sup>(2)</sup>
Common Stock							1,235,796.4144	I	Indirect #3 <sup>(3)</sup>
Common Stock							1,327,270.3213	I	Indirect #4 <sup>(4)</sup>

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction 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 (Month/Day/Year)		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: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Deferred Compensation	\$31.31						(5)	(5)	Common Stock	12,763.2219		12,763.2219 <sup>(5)</sup>	I	#1 <sup>(1)</sup>

**Explanation of Responses:**

- Indirect #1: By Carl H. Lindner Jr., et al., Trustee for the Carl H. Lindner Amended and Restated Family Trust dated 12/23/83.
- Indirect #2: By Edyth B. Lindner, Spouse.
- Indirect #3: By Lou Ann Flint, Trustee of the Edyth B. Lindner 2002-2 Qualified Annuity Trust U/A dated 8/19/02.
- Indirect #4: EBL, TTEE of the EBL Family Trust dtd 4/13/04.
- Represents amounts deferred by the Reporting Person in the Issuer's Deferred Compensation Plan. The account value increases or decreases based on the value of the Issuer's common stock. Upon termination of employment or earlier, if so elected, the Reporting Person's account balance may be distributed, at the option of the Issuer, either in cash or in shares of the Issuer's common stock.

**Remarks:**

Carl H. Lindner By: Karl J. Grafe, as Attorney-in-Fact      02/14/2005

\*\* 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 Number.