STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

HOUSE DAVID C Form 4

Form 4 November 26, 2004

# FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Section 16.
Form 4 or
Form 5
obligations
obligations
SECURITIES

SECURITIES

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.

See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

| 1. Name and A HOUSE DA                     | 5   | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol AMERICAN EXPRESS CO [AXP] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/23/2004 |          |                                 |    |  | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer   |   |  |  |                              |
|--|---|---|----------|---------------------------------|----|--|--|---|--|--|------------------------------|
| (Last)  AMERICAL TOWERAN T, 3 WORL CENTERS | ESS   |   |          |                                 |    |  |  | (Check all applicable)  Director 10% OwnerX Officer (give title Other (specify below)  Member, Global Leadership Team |  |  |                              |
| NEW YOR                                    | 1   | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)  |          |                                 |    |  | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |   |  |  |                              |
| (City)                                     | (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Ow |   |          |                                 |    |  |  |   |  | ally Owned   |                              |
| 1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)       | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year)   | 2A. Deemo<br>Execution<br>any<br>(Month/Da  | Date, if | 3.<br>Transa<br>Code<br>(Instr. | 8) | 4. Securities Acquired on(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)  (A) or Amount (D) Price |  |   | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) |                              |
| Common<br>Shares                           | 11/23/2004  | 11/23/20  | 04       | S                               |    | 10,000   | D  |   | 169,251  | D  |                              |
| Common<br>Shares                           |   |   |          |                                 |    |  |  |   | 6,705  | I  | By ISP<br>Trust (1)          |
| Common<br>Shares                           |   |   |          |                                 |    |  |  |   | 1,110  | I  | Custodian for minor children |

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)

|  | 1. Title of | 2.                                 | 3. Transaction Date | 3A. Deemed         | 4.         | 5.         | 6. Date Exerc                       | cisable and | 7. Titl          | le and       | 8. Price of |   |
|--|-------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|---|
|  | Derivative  | Conversion                         |                     | Execution Date, if | Transacti  | iorNumber  | Expiration Date                     |             | Amou             | int of       | Derivative  | į |
|  | Security    | or Exercise                        |                     | any                | Code       | of         | (Month/Day/                         | /Year)      | Underlying       |              | Security    |   |
|  | (Instr. 3)  | Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security |                     | (Month/Day/Year)   | (Instr. 8) | Derivative | Derivative<br>Securities            |             | Securities       |              | (Instr. 5)  | Ī |
|  |             |                                    |                     |                    |            | Securities |                                     |             | (Instr. 3 and 4) |              |             |   |
|  |             |                                    |                     |                    |            | Acquired   |                                     |             |                  |              |             | 1 |
|  |             |                                    |                     |                    |            | (A) or     |                                     |             |                  |              |             | į |
|  |             |                                    |                     |                    |            | Disposed   |                                     |             |                  |              |             |   |
|  |             |                                    |                     |                    |            | of (D)     |                                     |             |                  |              |             |   |
|  |             |                                    |                     |                    |            | (Instr. 3, |                                     |             |                  |              |             |   |
|  |             |                                    |                     |                    |            | 4, and 5)  |                                     |             |                  |              |             |   |
|  |             |                                    |                     |                    |            |            |                                     |             |                  | Amount       |             |   |
|  |             |                                    |                     |                    |            |            |                                     |             |                  |              |             |   |
|  |             |                                    |                     |                    |            |            | Date Expiration<br>Exercisable Date | Expiration  |                  | or<br>Number |             |   |
|  |             |                                    |                     |                    |            |            |                                     | Title       |                  |              |             |   |
|  |             |                                    |                     |                    | C-1- V     | (A) (D)    |                                     |             |                  | of           |             |   |
|  |             |                                    |                     |                    | Code V     | (A) (D)    |                                     |             |                  | Shares       |             |   |

# **Reporting Owners**

Relationships

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10%
Officer Other

Owner

HOUSE DAVID C AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWERAMERICAN EXPRESS T 3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER3 WORLD FINANCIA NEW YORK, NY 10285-5003

Member, Global Leadership Team

### **Signatures**

David C. House 11/26/2004

\*\*Signature of 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) Shares held in reporting person's account under the Company's Incentive Savings Plan as of November 23, 2004. This plan uses unit accounting, and the number of shares that a participant is deemed to hold varies with the unit price of the Company pooled stock fund.

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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