AMERICAN EXPRESS CO

Form 4

October 04, 2005

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

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response...

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

Check this box

may continue.

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

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * **BURNS URSULA M**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

below)

AMERICAN EXPRESS CO [AXP]

(Check all applicable)

(First) AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER, 3 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 09/30/2005

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

WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

(Instr. 4)

NEW YORK, NY 10285-5003

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

(Middle)

4. Securities 3. TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D)

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

7. Nature of 6. Ownership Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial (I)

Ownership (Instr. 4)

(A) or

(Instr. 8)

Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

1. Title of Derivative Conversion Security or Exercise

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any

4. Transactionof Code

5. Number 6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** Derivative (Month/Day/Year)

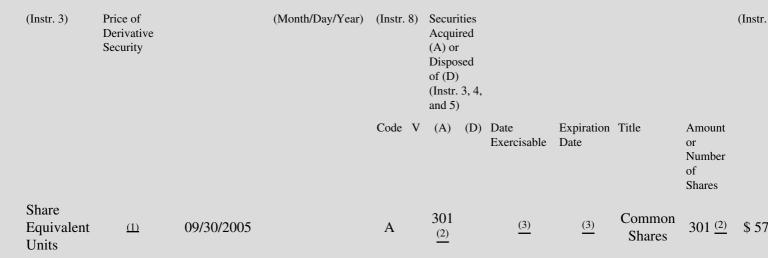
7. Title and Amount of 8. Price Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)

1

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Reporting Owners

Relationships

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10%
Owner Other

BURNS URSULA M AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER 3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER NEW YORK, NY 10285-5003

X

Signatures

s/ Stephen P. Norman, Attorney-in-fact

10/04/2005

**Signature of Reporting 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) The share equivalent units convert into common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- (2) The units shown have not yet been adjusted to reflect the issuer's spin-off of Ameriprise Financial, Inc. on September 30, 2005.
- (3) The share equivalent units are convertible immediately and have no expiration date.
- (4) The reported share equivalent units were acquired pursuant to the Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan and will be settled in cash following termination of service as a Director.
- (5) Includes share equivalent units acquired pursuant to a dividend reinvestment feature of the Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan and/or the 2003 Share Equivalent Unit Plan for Directors.

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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