Houston Daniel Joseph Form 4 October 20, 2017

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

Number: 3235-0287

Expires: January 31, 2005

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

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

obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP

Symbol

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

Houston Daniel Joseph

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

			PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC [PFG]				OUP	(Check all applicable)			
(Last)	(First) STREET	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 10/19/2017					_X_ Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)				
	(Street)	nendment, Date Original onth/Day/Year)				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_Form filed by One Reporting Person					
DES MOIN	NES, IA 50392						Form filed by More than One Reporting Person				
(City)	(State) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned										
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Da (Month/Day/Year) Execution any	Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquire cution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) nth/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (A) or			of (D)	Securities Ownership Inc Beneficially Form: Direct Be Owned (D) or Ow		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
Common Stock	10/19/2017			Code V M(1)	Amount 12,103	(D)	Price \$ 34.26	174,743 (2)	D		
Common Stock	10/19/2017			S <u>(1)</u>	12,103	D	\$ 68.04	162,640 (2)	D		
Common Stock	10/19/2017			M <u>(1)</u>	81,865	A	\$ 27.46	244,505 (2)	D		
Common Stock	10/19/2017			S <u>(1)</u>	81,865	D	\$ 68.04 (3)	162,640 (2)	D		
Common Stock								3,054	I	By 401(k) Plan	

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

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SEC 1474

(9-02)

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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	ransactionDerivative Code Securities		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)))	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Share
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 34.26	10/19/2017		M <u>(1)</u>	12,1	103	02/28/2014	02/28/2021	Common Stock	12,103
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 27.46	10/19/2017		M <u>(1)</u>	81,8	365	02/27/2015	02/27/2022	Common Stock	81,865

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
1	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
Houston Daniel Joseph 711 HIGH STREET	X		Chairman, President & CEO				
DES MOINES 1A 50392							

Signatures

Patrick A. Kirchner, by Power of Attorney 10/20/2017

**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).

Reporting Owners 2

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- (1) Pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on May 3, 2017.
- (2) Includes 3,258 shares acquired pursuant to the Principal Financial Group, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
 - The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$68.00 \$68.14, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to Principal Financial Group, Inc., any security holder of Principal
- Financial Group, Inc., or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the ranges set forth in this footnote.

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.