

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC  
 Form 5  
 February 14, 2005

**FORM 5**

**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. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).  
 Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

**ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF 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 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**LINDNER S CRAIG**  
  
 (Last) (First) (Middle)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC [AFG]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)  
 Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 Co-President

**ONE EAST FOURTH STREET**  
 (Street)

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)  
**12/31/2004**

**CINCINNATI, OH 45202**  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting  
 (check applicable line)

Form Filed by One Reporting Person  
 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. 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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Amount Price			
Common Stock	12/29/2004	^	G	81,992 D \$ 0	3,372,508	I	#1 (1)
Common Stock	^	^	^	^ ^ ^	643,411	I	#2 (2)
Common Stock	^	^	^	^ ^ ^	50,000	I	#3 (3)
Common Stock	^	^	^	^ ^ ^	13,893	I	#4 (4)

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Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	13,893	I	#5 <sup>(5)</sup>
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	13,893	I	#6 <sup>(6)</sup>
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	13,893	I	#7 <sup>(7)</sup>
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	96,881	I	#8 <sup>(8)</sup>
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	680,029	I	#9 <sup>(9)</sup>
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	1,000,000	I	#10 <sup>(10)</sup>
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	948,473	I	401-k(a) <sup>(11)</sup>

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

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(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. 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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
					(A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title Amount or Number of Shares
Deferred Compensation	\$ 31.31	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â <sup>(12)</sup> Â <sup>(12)</sup>	Common Stock 12,763.2

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
LINDNER S CRAIG ONE EAST FOURTH STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202	Â X	Â	Â	Co-President Â

## Signatures

S. Craig Lindner By: Karl J. Grafe, as  
Attorney-in-Fact

02/14/2005

\_\_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) Indirect #1: By S. Craig Lindner, Trustee for the S. Craig Lindner Living Trust dated 3/30/83.
- (2) Indirect #2: Malott Nyhart, Trustee of the SCL 1996-2 Qualified Annuity Trust dated 3/28/96.
- (3) Indirect #3: By Frances R. Lindner (spouse), Trustee for the Frances R. Lindner Living Trust dated 9/13/93.
- (4) Indirect #4: SCL, Jr. Trustee, SCL 2001 Living Trust DTD 12/26/01.
- (5) Indirect #5: Corinne E. Lindner, TTEE, CEL 2002 Living Trust DTD 11/14/02.
- (6) Indirect #6: by Frances R. Lindner (spouse), Custodian for minor child.
- (7) Indirect #7: by Frances R. Lindner (spouse), Custodian for minor child.
- (8) Indirect #8: By Keith E. Lindner, Trustee under an Irrevocable Trust indenture with Frances R. Lindner dated 2/13/85.
- (9) Indirect #9: KEL, TTEE Under an Irrev. Trust Ind. with SCL DTD 12/22/83.
- (10) Indirect #10: SCL, Investments LLC
- (11) (a) The number of shares of Common Stock which would be represented by the value of the Reporting Person's Common Stock Fund account in the Issuer's Retirement and Savings Plan ("401(k) Plan"), based on a 401(k) Plan statement dated as of 12/31/04.  
Represents amounts deferred by the Reporting Person in the Issuer's Deferred Compensation Plan. The account value increases or
- (12) 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.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.