



**American Equity Investment Life Holding**


**AEL NYSE**

**Insurance - Life / Health**

Market Capitalization USD:

**\$521.28 mm**

**CONCERN LEVEL: LOW**

- 1 The CEO's total remuneration is within the typical market range for the relevant industry and market cap.
- 2 The ratio between the CEO's pay and the median pay of the other named executive officers is 3X or less.
- 3 The CEO's annual cash incentives rose or fell in line with annual performance.
- 4 The CEO received no more than one annual cash bonus this fiscal year.
- 5 The CEO's equity remuneration reflected the company's share price movement over the last five years.
- 6 The company only pays long-term incentives to the CEO for above median performance against a peer group.
- 7 The company's dilution from equity incentives is 10 percent or less.
- 8 Unvested equity lapses when the CEO's employment is terminated. 
- 9 The CEO's potential cash severance payment is capped at two times annual cash remuneration.
- 10 The accrued benefits of the CEO's post-retirement income are within the typical market range for the relevant market cap bracket.

**CEO: Wendy C. Waugaman**

**Age: 51**

**CEO Since: 2009**

	2009	2010	2011
<b>Base Salary</b>	\$450,000	\$550,000	\$600,000
<b>Discretionary Bonus</b>	\$30,000	\$51,192	\$0
<b>Annual Cash Incentive</b>	\$15,600	\$271,956	\$383,997
<b>Benefits and Perquisites</b>	\$27,021	\$31,853	\$56,381
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL COMPENSATION</b>	<b>\$522,621</b>	<b>\$905,001</b>	<b>\$1,040,378</b>
<b>Increase in Post-Retirement Benefits</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Stock Option Awards</b>	\$174,400	\$448,118	\$0
<b>Stock Awards</b>	\$0	\$51,308	\$96,003
<b>TOTAL COMPENSATION</b>	<b>\$697,021</b>	<b>\$1,404,427</b>	<b>\$1,136,381</b>
<b>Median of Other Named Executive Officers Total Compensation</b>	\$593,361	\$1,245,565	\$946,141
<b>Value Realized on Exercise of Stock Option</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Value Realized on Vesting of Stock</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL REALIZED EQUITY COMPENSATION</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Proxy Date:** 23 Apr 2012

**Annual Meeting Date:** 7 Jun 2012

**Equity Reserves:** 6.86%

**Stock Option Run Rate:** 2.39%

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## Performance Comparison

■ S&P500 ■ Industry ■ AEL



## Peer Comparisons (TRBC) = Insurance - Life / Health

### Total Summary CEO Compensation

Ticker	Company Name	2009	2010	2011	Market Cap
<b>AEL</b>	<b>American Equity Investment Life Holding</b>	<b>\$697,021</b>	<b>\$1,404,427</b>	<b>\$1,136,381</b>	<b>\$521,281,153</b>
CNO	CNO Financial Group, Inc.	\$3,326,059	\$6,726,153	\$4,843,860	\$1,349,425,551
PL	Protective Life Corporation	\$4,606,270	\$6,350,657	\$6,436,780	\$1,323,713,562
SFG	StanCorp Financial Group, Inc.	\$3,393,939	\$3,583,392	\$4,055,025	\$1,228,062,420
DFG	Delphi Financial Group, Inc.	\$2,393,125	\$8,080,671		\$1,183,983,271
SYA	Symetra Financial Corporation	\$4,849,936	\$4,234,533	\$3,104,943	\$966,089,638
FFG	FBL Financial Group, Inc.	\$1,510,051	\$1,852,023	\$2,079,494	\$831,016,345

To insure consistency, peer comparisons are based on a combination of TRBC Industry and Sector classifications and company market caps.

Missing peer pay figures for 2011 are due to differences in company filing schedules.

### Pay Peer Group

Specific companies not disclosed.

### Performance Peer Group

NA

## COMPENSATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Director	Membership	Age	Gender	Tenure	Independence
A. J. Strickland	Chairman	70	Male	16	Outside Related
Harlev A. Whitfield	Member	81	Male	16	Outside Related
Robert L. Hilton	Member	83	Male	16	Outside Related

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