

AMERICAN EXPRESS CO
Form 4
May 04, 2012

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. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
GILLIGAN EDWARD P

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**3 WORLD FINANCIAL
CENTER, 200 VESEY ST,
AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER**

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10285

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

AMERICAN EXPRESS CO [AXP]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)

05/03/2012

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
Vice Chairman

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount or Price		
Common Stock	05/03/2012		M		10,282 A \$ 39.876	267,023	D
Common Stock	05/03/2012		M		195,351 A \$ 43.977	462,374	D
Common Stock	05/03/2012		S ⁽¹⁾		191,141 D \$ 60.9196	271,233	D
Common Stock	05/03/2012		S ⁽³⁾		20,000 D \$ 60.894	251,233	D
						1,616	I

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 reported disposition represents the sale of shares to cover the cost of exercise and withholding tax obligations arising from the stock options exercises reported above and the sale of 50% of the net shares acquired from these exercises; Mr. Gilligan will retain the balance of the net shares in accordance with the Company's retention guidelines for executive officers.

(2) The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$60.78 to \$61.24. The reporting person undertakes to provide to American Express Company, any security holder of American Express Company, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within this range.

(3) The reported disposition represents the sale of shares acquired from restricted stock vestings and/or stock option exercises in prior years.

(4) The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$60.38 to \$60.93. The reporting person undertakes to provide to American Express Company, any security holder of American Express Company, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within this range.

(5) These options became exercisable in four equal annual installments beginning on date shown as "Date Exercisable."

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.