

DAVIDSON SPENCER
Form 5/A
January 28, 2009

FORM 5

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
DAVIDSON SPENCER

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
GENERAL AMERICAN INVESTORS CO INC [GAM]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)
12/31/2008

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
President & CEO

GENERAL AMERICAN INVESTORS CO INC, 100 PARK AVENUE - 35TH FLOOR

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
01/20/2009

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

NEW YORK, NY 10017

Form Filed by One Reporting Person
 Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Amount	(A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	12/26/2008		J ⁽¹⁾	17,569	A \$ 15.55	645,081	D ⁽²⁾	
Common Stock	12/26/2008		J ⁽¹⁾	13,403	A \$ 15.55	549,369	I	By Trusts ⁽³⁾
Common Stock	12/31/2008		J ⁽⁴⁾	3,143	A \$ ⁽⁴⁾	37,339	I	By Thrift Plan Trust ⁽⁵⁾

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The securities reported herein were acquired on a periodic basis in open market transactions at the then prevailing market prices pursuant to the Issuer's Employees' Thrift Plan. The information is based upon a statement as of 12/31/2008 issued by the Plan Administrator.

(5) By Issuer's Employees' Thrift Plan Trust. The undersigned disclaims any beneficial interest in these shares.

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.