

DAVIDSON SPENCER
Form 4
November 26, 2008

FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL
OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2005
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)
GENERAL AMERICAN INVESTORS CO INC, 100 PARK AVENUE - 35TH FLOOR
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
11/26/2008

NEW YORK, NY 10017
(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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 | | 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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------|---|---|------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | | | |
| Common Stock | 10/26/2008 | | P | | 6,600 | A | \$ 15 627,512 | D ⁽¹⁾ | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 533,266 | I | By Trusts ⁽²⁾ |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 34,196 | I | By Thrift Plan Trust ⁽³⁾ |
| 5/95% Preferred | | | | | | | 87,400 | I | By Trusts ⁽²⁾ |

Stock

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. 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) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Beneficially (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| DAVIDSON SPENCER GENERAL AMERICAN INVESTORS CO INC 100 PARK AVENUE - 35TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10017 | X | | President & CEO | |

Signatures

/s/Spencer Davidson 11/26/2008

**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) Held by the Hudson Partnership of which Spencer Davidson is the General Partner and in which he has a 94% interest.
 - (2) By various Trusts of which the undersigned is Trustee. The undersigned disclaims any beneficial interest in these shares.
 - (3) 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 is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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