

Williams Anre D  
Form 3  
November 14, 2011

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 \*

Â Williams Anre D  
(Last) (First) (Middle)

AMERICAN EXPRESS  
TOWER, 200 VESEY ST.,Â 3  
WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER  
(Street)

NEW YORK,Â NYÂ 10285  
(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement

(Month/Day/Year)  
11/03/2011

3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
AMERICAN EXPRESS CO [AXP]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer  Other  
(give title below) (specify below)  
Pres. Global Merchant Services

5. 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 Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	63,616	D	Â
Common Stock	9.08 <sup>(1)</sup>	I	by 401(k) Trust

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security	4. Conversion or Exercise	5. Ownership Form of	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	(Instr. 4) Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Price of Derivative Security	Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	(Instr. 5)
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	01/26/2005 <sup>(2)</sup>	01/26/2014	Common Stock	22,848	\$ 43.977	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	01/24/2006 <sup>(2)</sup>	01/24/2015	Common Stock	30,845	\$ 45.768	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	01/23/2007 <sup>(2)</sup>	01/23/2016	Common Stock	29,700	\$ 51.865	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	01/25/2008 <sup>(2)</sup>	01/25/2017	Common Stock	30,000	\$ 57.77	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	07/31/2008 <sup>(2)</sup>	07/31/2017	Common Stock	20,000	\$ 58.54	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	01/31/2009 <sup>(3)</sup>	01/31/2018	Common Stock	50,000	\$ 49.13	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	01/29/2010 <sup>(3)</sup>	01/29/2019	Common Stock	61,999	\$ 16.71	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	10/30/2013	10/30/2019	Common Stock	86,108	\$ 34.84	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	01/26/2011 <sup>(3)</sup>	01/26/2020	Common Stock	27,560	\$ 38.1	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	01/27/2012 <sup>(3)</sup>	01/27/2021	Common Stock	29,188	\$ 44.54	D	Â
Phantom Stock Units	Â <sup>(4)</sup>	Â <sup>(4)</sup>	Common Stock	59.85	\$ <sup>(5)</sup>	D	Â

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Williams Anre D AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER, 200 VESEY ST. 3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER NEW YORK, NY 10285	Â	Â	Â Pres. Global Merchant Services	Â

## Signatures

/s/ Michael G. Kuchs,  
attorney-in-fact

11/14/2011

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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) Shares held in reporting person's account under the Company's Retirement Savings Plan. This plan uses unit accounting, and the number of shares that a participant is deemed to hold varies with the unit price of the Company pooled stock fund.
- (2) These options became exercisable in four equal annual installments beginning on date shown as "Date Exercisable."
- (3) These options become exercisable in four equal annual installments beginning on date shown as "Date Exercisable."
- (4) The units are to be settled following the reporting person's retirement or other termination of service.
- (5) The phantom stock converts into common stock on a one-for-one basis.

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### Remarks:

ExhibitÂ List:Â ExhibitÂ 24Â -Â PowerÂ ofÂ Attorney

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.