

RLI CORP  
Form 4  
December 18, 2008

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

OMB APPROVAL

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**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 \*  
MICHAEL JONATHAN E

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
9025 N. LINDBERGH DRIVE  
(Street)

PEORIA, IL 61615

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
RLI CORP [RLI]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/17/2008

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)  
President

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
Common Stock	12/17/2008		M	A	\$ 6,290 15.9063	D <sup>(1)</sup>	
Common Stock	12/17/2008		M	A	\$ 6,336 15.7813	D <sup>(1)</sup>	
Common Stock	12/17/2008		F	D	\$ 3,380 59.18	D <sup>(1)</sup>	
Common Stock					64,035.913	I	By Empl. Stock Ownership Plan <sup>(2)</sup>
					35,661.4286	I	

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Common Stock							By Key Employee Benefit Plan <sup>(1)</sup>
Common Stock					14,390.4404	I	By Trust <sup>(1)</sup>

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

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(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)	Amount or Number of Shares	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	
Stock Option	\$ 15.9063	12/17/2008		M	6,290	05/06/2000	05/06/2009	Common Stock	6,290
Stock Option	\$ 15.7813	12/17/2008		M	6,336	05/04/2001	05/04/2010	Common Stock	6,336
Stock Option	\$ 20.05					05/03/2002	05/03/2011	Common Stock	1
Stock Option	\$ 29.335					05/02/2003	05/02/2012	Common Stock	60,000
Stock Option	\$ 29.55					05/01/2004	05/01/2013	Common Stock	60,000
Stock Option	\$ 35.08					05/06/2005	05/06/2014	Common Stock	60,000
Stock Option	\$ 44.54					05/05/2006	05/05/2015	Common Stock	45,000
Stock Option	\$ 50.15					05/04/2007 <sup>(3)</sup>	05/04/2016	Common Stock	10,500
Stock Option	\$ 47.44					08/04/2007 <sup>(3)</sup>	08/04/2016	Common Stock	10,500

Stock Option	\$ 54.04	11/03/2007 <sup>(3)</sup>	11/03/2016	Common Stock	10,500
Stock Option	\$ 56.21	02/02/2008 <sup>(3)</sup>	02/02/2017	Common Stock	10,500
Stock Option	\$ 56.09	05/03/2008 <sup>(3)</sup>	05/03/2017	Common Stock	10,500
Stock Option	\$ 56.67	08/03/2008 <sup>(3)</sup>	08/03/2017	Common Stock	10,500
Stock Option	\$ 56.03	11/02/2008 <sup>(3)</sup>	11/02/2017	Common Stock	10,500
Stock Option	\$ 55.41	02/01/2009 <sup>(3)</sup>	02/01/2018	Common Stock	10,500
Stock Option	\$ 50	05/01/2009 <sup>(3)</sup>	05/01/2018	Common Stock	10,500
Stock Option	\$ 54.36	08/01/2009 <sup>(3)</sup>	08/01/2018	Common Stock	10,500
Stock Option	\$ 56.73	11/03/2009 <sup>(3)</sup>	11/03/2018	Common Stock	10,500

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
MICHAEL JONATHAN E 9025 N. LINDBERGH DRIVE PEORIA, IL 61615	X		President	

## Signatures

/s/ Jonathan E.  
Michael

12/18/2008

\*\*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) Ownership reflects dividend reinvestment.
  - (2) Ownership reflects shares allocated to ESOP participant's account and dividend reinvestment.
  - (3) Pursuant to option schedule wherein 20% of the aggregate number of shares granted may be exercised commencing one year from grant date and each year thereafter in 20% increments.

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