

National Interstate CORP

Form SC TO-T

February 05, 2014

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 5, 2014.

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE TO

Tender Offer Statement under Section 14(d)(1) or 13(e)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

national interstate corporation

Name of Subject Company (issuer))

great american insurance company

(offeror)

a wholly owned subsidiary of

american financial group, inc.

Names of Filing Persons (other person(s))

Common Stock, \$0.01 Par Value Per Share

(Title of Class of Securities)

63654U100

(CUSIP Number of Class of Securities)

**Mark A. Weiss
Assistant General Counsel
American Financial Group, Inc.
301 East Fourth Street, 27th Floor
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
Telephone: (513) 579-2520**

(Name, address, and telephone numbers of person authorized to receive notices and communications on behalf of filing persons)

With a copy to:

**F. Mark Reuter
Keating Muething & Klekamp PLL
1 East Fourth Street, Suite 1400
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
Telephone: (513) 579-6469**

Calculation of Filing Fee

Transaction Valuation* Amount Of Filing Fee**

\$266,595,448.00 \$34,337.50

Estimated for purposes of calculating the amount of the filing fee only. The calculation assumes the purchase of all outstanding shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Shares"), of National Interstate Corporation, an Ohio corporation, other than Shares owned by American Financial Group, Inc. ("AFG") and its subsidiaries, at a purchase price of \$28.00 per Share, net to the seller in cash. As of October 30, 2013, there were 19,721,266 Shares outstanding, of which 10,200,000 Shares are owned by subsidiaries of AFG. As a result, this calculation assumes the purchase of 9,521,266 Shares.

The amount of the filing fee is calculated in accordance with Rule 0-11 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, by multiplying the transaction value by \$0.0001288.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing with which the offsetting fee was previously paid. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the form or schedule and the date of its filing.
Amount Previously Paid: Not applicable Form or Registration No.: Not applicable

Filing Party: Not applicable Date filed: Not applicable

Check box if the filing relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer.

Check the appropriate boxes to designate any transactions to which this statement relates:

R third party tender offer subject to Rule 14d-1.

£ issuer tender offer subject to Rule 13e-4.

R going-private transaction subject to Rule 13e-3.

£ amendment to Schedule 13D under Rule 13d-2.

Check the following box if the filing is a final amendment reporting the results of the tender offer: £

If applicable check the appropriate box(es) below to designate the appropriate rule provision(s) relied upon:

£ Rule 13e-4(i) (Cross-Border Issuer Tender Offer)

£ Rule 14d-1(d) (Cross-Border Third Party Tender Offer)

This Tender Offer Statement filed on Schedule TO (this “**Schedule TO**”) relates to the tender offer by Great American Insurance Company (“**Purchaser**”), an Ohio corporation and wholly-owned subsidiary of American Financial Group, Inc., an Ohio corporation (“**AFG**”), to purchase all the outstanding shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the “**Shares**”), of National Interstate Corporation, an Ohio corporation (the “**National Interstate**”), other than Shares owned by Purchaser, at a purchase price of \$28.00 per Share, net to the seller in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding of taxes, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Offer to Purchase, dated February 5, 2014 (as may be amended or supplemented from time to time, the “**Offer to Purchase**”), a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit (a)(1)(i), and the related Letter of Transmittal (as may be amended or supplemented from time to time, the “**Letter of Transmittal**”), a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit (a)(1)(ii) (which, as amended or supplemented from time to time, together constitute the “**Offer**”). The information set forth in the Offer to Purchase, including all schedules thereto, and the related Letter of Transmittal are hereby expressly incorporated by reference in response to all items of this Schedule TO.

Item 1. Summary Term Sheet.

Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the heading “Summary Term Sheet” which is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 2. Subject Company Information.

(a) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the heading “The Offer — Section 7. Certain Information Concerning National Interstate” which is incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the heading “Introduction” which is incorporated herein by reference.

(c) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the heading “The Offer — Section 6. Price Range of the Shares; Dividends” which is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 3. Identity and Background of Filing Person.

(a) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the headings “Summary Term Sheet,” “Introduction,” “The Offer — Section 8. Certain Information Concerning AFG and Purchaser” and “Schedule A — Information Concerning Directors and Executive Officers of AFG and Purchaser” which is incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the heading “The Offer — Section 8. Certain Information Concerning AFG and Purchaser” which is incorporated herein by reference.

(c) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the headings “The Offer — Section 8. Certain Information Concerning AFG and Purchaser” and “Schedule A — Information Concerning Directors and Executive Officers of AFG and Purchaser” which is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 4. Terms of the Transaction.

(a) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the headings “Summary Term Sheet,” “Introduction,” “Special Factors — Section 7. Effects of the Offer,” “The Offer — Section 1. Terms of the Offer,” “The Offer — Section 2. Acceptance for Payment and Payment for Shares,” “The Offer — Section 3. Procedures for Accepting the Offer and Tendering Shares,” “The Offer — Section 4. Withdrawal Rights,” “The Offer — Section 5. Certain United States Federal Income Tax Consequences” and “The Offer — Section 12. Effect of the Offer on the Market for the Shares; Nasdaq Listing; Exchange Act Registration; Margin Regulations” which is incorporated herein by reference

Item 5. Past Contacts, Transactions, Negotiations and Agreements.

(a) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the headings “Special Factors — Section 10. Transactions and Arrangements Concerning the Shares,” “Special Factors — Section 11. Certain Relationships Between AFG and National Interstate” and “Schedule B — Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners” which is incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the heading “Special Factors — Section 1. Background” which is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 6. Purposes of the Transaction and Plans or Proposals.

(a) and (c) (1) through (7) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the headings “Special Factors — Section 2. Purpose of and Reasons for the Offer; Plans for National Interstate After the Offer and the Merger,” “Special Factors — Section 7. Effects of the Offer,” “Special Factors — Section 8. Conduct of National Interstate’s Business if the Offer Is Not Completed,” and “The Offer — Section 12. Effect of the Offer on the Market for the Shares; Nasdaq Listing; Exchange Act Registration; Margin Regulations” which is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 7. Source and Amount of Funds or Other Consideration.

(a), (b) and (d) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the headings “Summary Term Sheet,” “Introduction” and “The Offer — Section 9. Source and Amount of Funds” which is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 8. Interest in Securities of the Subject Company.

(a) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the headings “Summary Term Sheet,” “Introduction,” “Special Factors — Section 10. Transactions and Arrangements Concerning the Shares” and “Schedule B — Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners” which is incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the headings “Special Factors — Section 10. Transactions and Arrangements Concerning the Shares,” and “Schedule B — Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners” which is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9. Persons/Assets, Retained, Employed, Compensated or Used.

(a) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the heading “The Offer — Section 14. Fees and Expenses” which is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 10. Financial Statements.

(a) Financial statements for the offeror are not material because the consideration offered consists solely of cash, the Offer is not subject to any financing condition and the Offer is for all outstanding securities of the subject class.

(b) Pro forma financial information is not material to the Offer.

Item 11. Additional Information.

(a)(1) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the headings “Special Factors — Section 1. Background,” and “Special Factors — Section 11. Certain Relationships Between AFG and National Interstate” which is incorporated herein by reference.

(a)(2) through (4) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase under the headings “Special Factors — Section 7. Effects of the Offer,” “Special Factors — Section 9. Dissenters’ Rights; Rule 13e-3,” “The Offer — Section 1. Terms of the Offer,” “The Offer — Section 5. Certain United States Federal Income Tax Consequences,” “The Offer — Section 12. Effect of the Offer on the Market for the Shares; Nasdaq Listing; Exchange Act Registration; Margin Regulations,” “The Offer — Section 13. Certain Legal Matters; Regulatory Approvals,” and “The Offer — Section 15. Miscellaneous” which is incorporated herein by reference

(a)(5) None.

(c) Reference is made to the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase and the Letter of Transmittal, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 12. Exhibits.

(a)(1)(i) Offer to Purchase, dated February 5, 2014.

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- (a)(1)(ii) Letter of Transmittal.
- (a)(1)(iii) Notice of Guaranteed Delivery.
- (a)(1)(iv) Letter to Clients for use by Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees.
- (a)(1)(v) Letter to Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees.
- (a)(1)(vi) Summary Advertisement published in The New York Times on February 5, 2014.
- (a)(5)(i) Press Release, issued by AFG, dated February 5, 2014.
- (b) None.
- (d) None.
- (g) None.
- (h) None.

SIGNATURE

After due inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: February 5, 2014

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

By: /s/ Karl J. Grafe

Name:
Karl J. Grafe

Title: Vice President

GREAT AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY

By: /s/ Eve Cutler Rosen

Name:
Eve Cutler Rosen

Title: Senior Vice
President, General
Counsel and Secretary