

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported) August 22, 2005

NATIONAL WESTERN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

COLORADO
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

84-0467208
(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

2-17039
(Commission File Number)

850 EAST ANDERSON LANE, AUSTIN, TEXAS
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

78752-1602
(Zip code)

(512) 836-1010
(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

Effective July 1, 2005, National Western Life Insurance Company ("Company") established the Non-Qualified Defined Benefit Plan for Robert L. Moody ("Plan"), Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. This Plan was established by the Company to provide an additional benefit for Mr. Moody related to the retirement benefits otherwise provided by the Company.

The Plan is subject to section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and is intended to provide for post-2004 benefit accruals that mirror the pre-2005 benefit accruals under a previous nonqualified plan ("Grandfathered Plan") which was frozen due to law changes under the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 ("Act"). Mr. Moody's benefit under the Grandfathered Plan was frozen effective as of December 31, 2004. The Plan established July 1, 2005, is separate from the Grandfathered Plan and complies with the requirements of the Act. Effective July 1, 2005, Mr. Moody's defined benefit retirement amounts will be paid from three Company plans: the qualified pension plan, the Grandfathered Plan (for benefits accrued from January 1, 1991 through December 31, 2004) and the Plan (for benefits accrued after December 31, 2004).

On August 19, 2005 this Plan was amended by action of the Company's Board of Directors, effective July 1, 2005 to guarantee benefits as stated in the Plan for twenty-one years after Mr. Moody's retirement date and shall continue for the life of Mr. Moody if he lives beyond such guaranteed period.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits

Exhibit Number	Description
10(ba)	First Amendment to the National Western Life Insurance Company Non-Qualified Defined Benefit Plan for Robert L. Moody.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

NATIONAL WESTERN LIFE INSURANCE
COMPANY

Date: August 22, 2005

By: /S/Brian M. Pribyl

Name: Brian M. Pribyl
Title: Senior Vice President
Chief Financial & Administrative Officer
and Treasurer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description
10(ba)	First Amendment to the National Western Life Insurance Company Non-Qualified Defined Benefit Plan for Robert L. Moody.

EXHIBIT 10(ba)

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE
NATIONAL WESTERN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
NON-QUALIFIED DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN
FOR ROBERT L. MOODY**

This First Amendment to the National Western Life Insurance Company Non-Qualified Defined Benefit Plan for Robert L. Moody (the "Plan") is hereby adopted by National Western Life Insurance Company (the "Company").

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Plan was originally established effective July 1, 2005;

WHEREAS, Section 6.3 of the Plan permits the Company to amend the Plan at any time; and

WHEREAS, the Company desires to amend the Plan to change the annuity form of benefit payment under Section 5.1 of the Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Plan is hereby amended as follows effective as of the date of adoption of this First Amendment to the Plan:

1. Section 5.1 of the Plan is hereby amended by restating the first two sentences of such Section, such sentences to read in their entirety as follows:

The Participant shall receive his vested Accrued Benefit payable in the form of a 21-year guaranteed single life annuity payable in monthly installments. Payments under such annuity shall be guaranteed for 21 years after the Participant's Normal Retirement Date and shall continue for the life of the Participant if the Participant lives beyond such guarantee period.

2. Article V of the Plan is hereby amended by adding the following new Section 5.2 at the end thereof, such Section to read in its entirety as follows:

5.2 Payment to Beneficiary

The Participant may designate one or more beneficiaries to receive any benefits payable under the Plan after the death of the Participant. To be effective, any such beneficiary designation must be on a form acceptable to the Employer and must be filed with the Employer prior to the death of the Participant. The Participant may revoke or change a prior beneficiary designation at any time prior to his death by filing a new beneficiary designation with the Employer on a form acceptable to the Employer. If the Participant does not make an effective beneficiary designation prior to death or if no designated beneficiary survives the Participant, any benefits payable hereunder after the death of the Participant shall be paid to the Participant's estate. References hereunder to a benefit payable to or with respect to the Participant include any benefit payable to the Participant's designated beneficiary or estate.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has adopted and executed this First Amendment to the Plan this 19th day of August, 2005.

National Western Life Insurance Company

/S/ James P. Payne

By: James P. Payne

Its: Senior Vice President - Secretary

