STERLING FINANCIAL CORP /WA/

Form 4

August 08, 2006

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

Expires:

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

3235-0287

0.5

January 31, 2005

Estimated average

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Check this box

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

BOBBITT DAVID P		STE	Symbol STERLING FINANCIAL CORP /WA/ [STSA]				Issuer (Check all applicable)			
(Last) 111 N. WAI	(First) (N	(Mont	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/07/2006				Director 10% OwnerX Officer (give title Other (specify below) Executive Vice President Sterl			
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting			
SPOKANE,	WA 99201						Person	Aore than One Re	porting	
(City)	(State)	(Zip) T	able I - Non-De	rivative S	Secur	ities Acq	uired, Disposed o	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, any (Month/Day/Yea	f Transaction Code (r) (Instr. 8)	4. Securit (A) or Dis (Instr. 3, 4)	spose	d of (D)	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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Common Stock							11,520	D		
Common Stock	08/07/2006	08/08/2006	S	3,508	D	\$ 32.65	0	I	401(k)	

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

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exerc		7. Title a		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	onNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amount	of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Underlyi	ng	Security	Secu
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securitie	s	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr. 3 a	and 4)		Own
	Security				Acquired						Follo
					(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
								A ₁	mount		
								or			
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title Number of			
				Code V	(A) (D)			Sh	nares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BOBBITT DAVID P 111 N. WALL STREET SPOKANE, WA 99201

Executive Vice President Sterl

Signatures

E. Marie Hirsch 08/08/2006

**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).

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.

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