**ZUPPE WILLIAM W** 

Form 4

August 02, 2007

# FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

**OMB APPROVAL** OMB

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

Check this box

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 may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * ZUPPE WILLIAM W   |   |               | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading<br>Symbol<br>STERLING FINANCIAL CORP<br>/WA/ [STSA] |  |            |                              |   | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to<br>Issuer  (Check all applicable)  |  |                |
|---|---|---------------|--|--|------------|------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| (Last) 111 N. WA  | (First) (N                              | Middle)       | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/01/2007                              |  |            |                              |   | _X_ Director 10% Owner Other (specify below) COO & President   |  |                |
|   | (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   |   |               |  |  |            |                              |   | Form filed by More than One Reporting Person   |  |                |
| (City)  | (State)                                 | (Zip)         | Tabl   | e I - Non-D                            | erivative  | Secui                        | rities Acq  | quired, Disposed o   | f, or Beneficial   | ly Owned       |
| 1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)  | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Execution any | med<br>on Date, if<br>Day/Year)  | 3.<br>Transactic<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | (Instr. 3, | ispose<br>4 and<br>(A)<br>or | ed of (D)   | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) |                |
| Common<br>Stock   | 08/01/2007                              | 08/01/2       | 2007   | P                                      | 1,000      | A                            | \$<br>22.52   | 75,601   | D  |                |
| Common<br>Stock   |   |               |  |  |            |                              |   | 31,201   | I  | 401(k)<br>Plan |
| Common<br>Stock   |   |               |  |  |            |                              |   | 2,236  | I  | Spouse<br>IRA  |
| Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. |   |               |  |  |            |                              |   |  |  |                |

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(9-02)

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#### number.

# 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 | 3A. Deemed         | 4.          | 5.         | 6. Date Exerc | cisable and | 7. Titl | e and        | 8. Price of | 9. Nu  |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|-------------|---------|--------------|-------------|--------|
| Derivative  | Conversion  | (Month/Day/Year)    | Execution Date, if | Transaction | orNumber   | Expiration D  | ate         | Amou    | nt of        | Derivative  | Deriv  |
| Security    | or Exercise |                     | any                | Code        | of         | (Month/Day/   | Year)       | Under   | lying        | Security    | Secui  |
| (Instr. 3)  | Price of    |                     | (Month/Day/Year)   | (Instr. 8)  | Derivative | e             |             | Securi  | ities        | (Instr. 5)  | Bene   |
|             | Derivative  |                     |                    |             | Securities |               |             | (Instr. | 3 and 4)     |             | Owne   |
|             | Security    |                     |                    |             | Acquired   |               |             |         |              |             | Follo  |
|             |             |                     |                    |             | (A) or     |               |             |         |              |             | Repo   |
|             |             |                     |                    |             | Disposed   |               |             |         |              |             | Trans  |
|             |             |                     |                    |             | of (D)     |               |             |         |              |             | (Instr |
|             |             |                     |                    |             | (Instr. 3, |               |             |         |              |             |        |
|             |             |                     |                    |             | 4, and 5)  |               |             |         |              |             |        |
|             |             |                     |                    |             |            |               |             |         | Amount       |             |        |
|             |             |                     |                    |             |            |               |             |         | Amount       |             |        |
|             |             |                     |                    |             |            | Date          | Expiration  | Title   | Or           |             |        |
|             |             |                     |                    |             |            | Exercisable   | Date        | ritie   | Number<br>of |             |        |
|             |             |                     |                    | Codo V      | (A) (D)    |               |             |         |              |             |        |
|             |             |                     |                    | Code V      | (A) (D)    |               |             |         | Shares       |             |        |

## **Reporting Owners**

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                             | Relationships |           |                 |       |  |  |  |  |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner France / Francess                          | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer         | Other |  |  |  |  |
| ZUPPE WILLIAM W<br>111 N. WALL STREET<br>SPOKANE, WA 99201 | X             |           | COO & President |       |  |  |  |  |

# **Signatures**

Daniel G. Byrne 08/01/2007

\*\*Signature of Date
Reporting Person

## **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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