#### STERLING FINANCIAL CORP /WA/

Form 4

March 12, 2008

### FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

**OMB APPROVAL** 

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

0.5

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response...

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

Check this box

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **BOYER ELLEN RM** Issuer Symbol STERLING FINANCIAL CORP (Check all applicable) /WA/[STSA] X\_ Director (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction 10% Owner Other (specify Officer (give title (Month/Day/Year) below) 111 N. WALL STREET 03/11/2008 (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) \_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting SPOKANE, WA 99201 Person (City) (State) (Zip) 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 on(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		d of	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	03/11/2008	03/11/2008	P	3,000	A	\$ 14.5	4,000	D	

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

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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.  onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)		ate	7. Title a Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 a	of ng s	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(Instr. 3, 4, and 5)  (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	or Title Nu of	umber		

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
BOYER ELLEN RM						
111 N. WALL STREET	X					
SPOKANE, WA 99201						

## **Signatures**

DANIEL G.
BYRNE

\*\*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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