SEIBLY JOHN GREGORY

Form 4

September 19, 2011

FORM 4

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

OMB

Check this box if no longer

3235-0287 Number: January 31, Expires:

2005

OMB APPROVAL

subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Estimated average burden hours per response...

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

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1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

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1. Name and Ad SEIBLY JOH	Symbol STER	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol STERLING FINANCIAL CORP /WA/ [STSA]			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)			
(Last)	(First) (M	,	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)			give titleOth		
111 N. WAL	`	09/16/2011			below) below) CEO/President - SFC			
	4. If An	4. If Amendment, Date Original			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check			
CDOWANE A	Filed(M	Filed(Month/Day/Year)			Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting			
SPOKANE, V	WA 99201				Person	y more than one re	oporung	
(City)	(State)	(Zip) Ta	ble I - Non-I	Derivative Securities A	cquired, Disposed	l of, or Beneficia	lly Owned	
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securities	5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of	
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, i	f Transacti	ionAcquired (A) or	Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect	
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	Disposed of (D)	Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial	

(A) Transaction(s)

(Month/Day/Year)

(Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

Owned

Following

Reported

Indirect (I)

(Instr. 4)

Ownership

(Instr. 4)

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

Common 1,720 $A^{(1)}$ 09/16/2011 A \$0 36,262 D (2) Stock

Common I 2,234 401K Stock

(Instr. 8)

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.

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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	f 2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exer	cisable and	7. Titl	le and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivativ	e Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	ınt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	/Year)	Under	rlying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivativ	e		Secur	ities	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities	S		(Instr.	. 3 and 4)		Own
	Security				Acquired						Follo
					(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									A		
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration	T:41-	or Namel		
						Exercisable	Date	Title	Number		
				C-1- V	(A) (D)				of		
				Code v	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
1	Director	Director 10% Owner Officer		Other		
SEIBLY JOHN GREGORY 111 N. WALL STREET SPOKANE, WA 99201	X		CEO/President - SFC			

Signatures

/s/ Daniel G. Byrne, 09/19/2011 attorney-in-fact

**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).
- Grant of salary stock in the form of mandatorily deferred Restricted Stock Units as approved by Sterling's board of directors on December (1) 8, 2010. Future RSUs are to be granted each payroll period and will be calculated using the closing price of Sterling's common stock on the NASDAQ Capital Market as of the last trading day in each payroll period.
- Units vest immediately upon grant, however, delivery of the awarded shares is deferred until future distribution dates provided in the Agreement between Sterling and Mr. Seibly.

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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