

TIETJEN JOHN W
Form 5
January 12, 2010

FORM 5

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).
Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
TIETJEN JOHN W

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
STERLING BANCORP [STL]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)
12/31/2009

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
EVP and CFO

650 FIFTH AVENUE

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

NEW YORK, NY 10019-6108

Form Filed by One Reporting Person
 Form Filed by More than One Reporting 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 (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | (A) or (D) | Price | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|------------|-------|--|--|---|
| Common Stock | ^ | ^ | ^ | ^ | ^ | ^ | 70,305 | D | ^ |
| Common Stock | ^ | ^ | ^ | ^ | ^ | ^ | 10,494 | I | By 401(k) |

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

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SEC 2270 (9-02)

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. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Incentive Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 6.94 | Â | Â | Â | Â (A) Â (D) | 02/11/2007 ⁽¹⁾ 02/11/2010 | Common Stock | 32 |
| Incentive Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 14.6 | Â | Â | Â | Â (A) Â (D) | 02/06/2010 ⁽²⁾ 02/06/2012 | Common Stock | 13 |
| Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy) | \$ 6.94 | Â | Â | Â | Â (A) Â (D) | 02/11/2001 ⁽³⁾ 02/11/2010 | Common Stock | 6 |
| Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy) | \$ 14.6 | Â | Â | Â | Â (A) Â (D) | 02/06/2003 ⁽³⁾ 02/06/2012 | Common Stock | 24 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| TIETJEN JOHN W 650 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10019-6108 | Â | Â | Â EVP and CFO | Â |

Signatures

John W. Tietjen 01/12/2010
 **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).
- (1) Options become exercisable, commencing on the seventh anniversary of the grant in three installments for a term of ten years from grant (first exercisable date listed.)
- (2) Options become exercisable, commencing on the eighth anniversary of the grant, in two installments for a term of ten years from grant date (first exercisable date listed.)

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- (3) Non-qualified options are exercisable commencing on the first anniversary of the grant for a term of ten years from grant date (first exercisable date listed.)

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.