#### STERLING BANCORP

Form 4

March 16, 2006

# FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

OMB Number:

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**OMB APPROVAL** 

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Check this box

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations 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 \* FELDESMAN WALTER

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

STERLING BANCORP [STL]

Issuer

(Last)

(City)

(First)

(Middle)

(Zip)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

4. If Amendment, Date Original

(Month/Day/Year)

(Check all applicable)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

X\_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below)

650 FIFTH AVENUE, 4TH FLOOR

(Street)

(State)

03/15/2006

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

\_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

NEW YORK, NY 10019

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3) anv (Month/Day/Year)

4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of Transaction(A) or Disposed of Code (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Beneficial Indirect (I) Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

Code V

or Amount (D)

(A)

Price

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Common Stock

03/15/2006

S 2,500 D

20,182 20.2

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. orNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year			7. Title and Amount Underlying Securitie (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amour or Number of Shares	
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 14.74					06/29/2002(1)	06/29/2006	Common Stock	9,603	
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 13.71					07/31/2002(1)	07/31/2006	Common Stock	4,573	
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 18.91					06/28/2003(1)	06/28/2007	Common Stock	9,603	
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 15.82					07/31/2003(1)	07/31/2007	Common Stock	4,573	
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 17.73					06/30/2004(1)	06/30/2008	Common Stock	4,725	
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 18.78					07/31/2004(1)	07/31/2008	Common Stock	4,573	
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 21.93					06/30/2005(1)	06/30/2009	Common Stock	4,725	
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 21.41					07/30/2005(1)	07/30/2009	Common Stock	4,573	
Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 20.34					12/19/2005(3)	06/30/2010	Common Stock	4,72:	

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Reporting Owners 2

### Edgar Filing: STERLING BANCORP - Form 4

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

FELDESMAN WALTER 650 FIFTH AVENUE 4TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10019

X

# **Signatures**

/s/ Feldesman,

Walter 03/16/2006

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

# **Explanation of Responses:**

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

Date

- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Transfer of shares acquired by exercise of non-qualified stock options is restricted to even installments over a four year period commencing on the first anniversary of the grant.
- (2) Includes securities issued as a result of a stock split in the form of a 5% dividend paid by issuer on December 12, 2005; exercise prices have been adjusted accordingly.
- On December 15, 2005 the Board of Directors voted to accelerate the vesting and exercisability of any outstanding unvested and (3) unexercisable non-qualified stock options held by non-employee directors, effective as of December 19, 2005; provided, however, that transfer of shares acquired by such exercise is restricted until the date that the option would have been exercisable prior to such change.

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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