STERLING BANCORP Form 8-K October 21, 2011

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) October 20, 2011

Commission File Number: 1-5273-1

Sterling Bancorp

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

New York13-2565216(State of other jurisdiction(IRS Employerof incorporation)Identification No.)

650 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10019-6108 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(212) 757 - 3300

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(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

NA

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

oWritten communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

oSoliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

oPre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b)

oPre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17CFR 240.13e-4(c)

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PRESS RELEASE

ITEMS 2.02 AND 7.01

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION AND REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE

On October 20, 2011, the Company announced its financial results for the third quarter ended September 30, 2011. The Company's press release announcing these results and containing certain other information is included as Exhibit 99.1.

<u>ITEM 9.01</u>

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(d) Exhibits

Press release dated October 20, 2011. The press release is furnished pursuant to Items 2.02 and 7.01, except that the unaudited consolidated balance sheets as of September 30, 2011 and unaudited consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income and changes in shareholders' equity for

99.1 the nine months ended September 30, 2011 on pages 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the press release shall be deemed "filed" for purposes of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 rather than furnished pursuant to General Instruction B.2 of Form 8-K.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

DATE: October 21, 2011

BY: /s/ JOHN W. TIETJEN JOHN W. TIETJEN Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number

99.1 Press Release dated October 20, 2011