#### STERLING BANCORP

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

Section 16.

Form 4 or

obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

Form 5

Form 4 June 21, 2006

#### FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

burden hours per response...

**OMB APPROVAL** 

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(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **HUMPHREYS HENRY J** Issuer Symbol STERLING BANCORP [STL] (Check all applicable) (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) \_X\_\_ Director 10% Owner Other (specify Officer (give title 650 FIFTH AVENUE, 4TH FLOOR 06/21/2006 below) (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 NEW YORK, NY 10019 Person (City) (State) (Zin)

(City)	(State) (A	Table	e I - Non-Do	erivative Securities Ac	quired, Disposed o	of, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securities Acquired	5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactio	on(A) or Disposed of	Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	(D)	Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership
					Following	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)
				(	Reported		
				(A)	Transaction(s)		
			Code V	or Amount (D) Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	06/21/2006		S	3,000 D \$ 18.6	19,939	D	

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not 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)

#### Edgar Filing: STERLING BANCORP - Form 4

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. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisab Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year		7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and 4	ecuritie
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amour or Number of Shares
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	Kelationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
HUMPHREYS HENRY J 650 FIFTH AVENUE 4TH FLOOR	X					
NEW YORK, NY 10019						

Reporting Owners 2

### **Signatures**

/s/ Humphreys, Henry J

06/21/2006

\*\*Signature of Reporting

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).
- (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.

Signatures 3