SEIBLY JOHN GREGORY

Form 5

February 01, 2011

FORM 5

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB Number: 3235-0362

no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Check this box if

hington, D.C. 20549

Expires: January 31, 2005

NT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL Estimated average

Estimated average burden hours per

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

response... 1.0

See Instruction
1(b). Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,
Form 3 Holdings Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section
Reported
Form 4 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Transactions Reported

securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

SEIBLY JOHN GREGORY			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) (N	(Month/I	3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2010				_X_ Director 10% Owner Specify Delow) Other (specify below) CEO/President - SFC				
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)				6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (check applicable line)				
SPOKANE	WA 99201						_X_ Form Filed by Form Filed by Person	One Reporting P More than One R			
(City)	(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. Securi Acquired Disposed (Instr. 3,	(A) of (D) 4 and (A) or))	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	12/31/2010	Â	J	118 (2)	A	\$ <u>(1)</u>	234	I	401K		
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	10,223	D	Â		
Reminder: Rep	Persons who respond to the collection of information SEC 227					SEC 2270					

contained in this form are not required to respond unless

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(9-02)

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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	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Titl	e and	8. Price of
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction	Number	Expiration D	ate	Amou	int of	Derivative
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Secur	ities	(Instr. 5)
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)	
	Security				Acquired					
	•				(A) or					
					Disposed					
					of (D)					
					(Instr. 3,					
					4, and 5)					
					.,					
									Amount	
						Date	Expiration		or	
						Exercisable	Date	Title	Number	
						Exercisable	Date		of	
					(A) (D)				Shares	

of D

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
1 6	Director 10% Owne		Officer	Other		
SEIBLY JOHN GREGORY 111 N. WALL STREET SPOKANE, WA 99201	ÂΧ	Â	CEO/President - SFC	Â		

Signatures

/s/ Daniel G. Byrne, attorney-in-fact 02/01/2011

**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).
- (1) Not required.
- (2) To balance 401(k) company share ownership at 12/31/2010 -- This amount reflects shares owned through employee contributions as well as company match shares at 12/31/2010.

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.

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