

STERLING FINANCIAL CORP /WA/

Form 4

January 30, 2014

FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

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

**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

OMB APPROVAL

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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Eckhardt Ezra

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) (Middle)
111 N. WALL STREET
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
01/28/2014

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
____X____ Officer (give title ____ Other (specify
below) below)
COO - Sterling Financial Corp.

SPOKANE, WA 99201

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
____X____ 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)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
Common Stock	01/28/2014		M	3,762	A	\$ 66,984	D
Common Stock	01/28/2014		F	1,103	D	\$ 32.42	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
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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 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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. D S (1		
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Restricted Stock Unit	\$ 0 ⁽²⁾	01/28/2014		M		3,762		⁽²⁾	01/28/2014	Common Stock	3,762

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
Eckhardt Ezra 111 N. WALL STREET SPOKANE, WA 99201	COO - Sterling Financial Corp.

Signatures

/s/ Lara L. Hemingway,
attorney-in-fact 01/30/2014

__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) Represents the vesting and settlement of 3,762 shares of common stock pursuant to restricted stock units vested on January 28, 2014.

(2) Each restricted stock unit represented a contingent right to receive one share of common stock originally granted on January 28, 2011.
75% of the restricted stock units vested on January 28, 2013 and 25% of the restricted stock units vested on January 28, 2014.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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