

Edgar Filing: STERLING BANCORP - Form SC 13G

STERLING BANCORP  
Form SC 13G  
February 15, 2012

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

SCHEDULE 13G  
Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Sterling Bancorp  
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock  
(Title of Class of Securities)

859158107  
(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2011  
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

Rule 13d-1(b)

Rule 13d-1(c)

Rule 13d-1(d)

\*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

CUSIP No. 859158107

1. Names of Reporting Persons.

DePrince, Race & Zollo, Inc.  
59-3299598

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member Of a Group

(a)

(b)

3. SEC Use Only

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization

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Incorporated in the State of Florida

Number of Shares 5. Sole Voting Power: 2,427,969  
Beneficially Owned by 6. Shared Voting Power: 0  
Each Reporting Person With: 7. Sole Dispositive Power: 2,427,969  
8. Shared Dispositive Power: 0

9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person  
2,427,969

10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares

11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9)  
7.85%

12. Type of Reporting Person  
IA

Item 1. (a) Name of Issuer: Sterling Bancorp

(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

650 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10019-6108

Item 2. (a) Name of Person Filing:

DePrince, Race & Zollo, Inc.

(b) Address of Principal Business Office, or, if None, Residence:

250 Park Ave South, Suite 250  
Winter Park, FL 32789

(c) Citizenship:

Please refer to Item 4 on each cover sheet for each filing person

(d) Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock

(e) CUSIP No.: 859158107

Item 3. If This Statement is Filed Pursuant to Rules 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b) or (c), Check Whether the Person Filing is a:

(a)  Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Act.

(b)  Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Act.

(c)  Insurance company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Act.

(d)  Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940.

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- (e)  An investment adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
- (f)  An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
- (g)  A parent holding company or control person in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);
- (h)  A savings associations as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);
- (i)  A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940;
- (j)  A non-U.S. institution in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J);
- (k)  Group, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(K).

### Item 4. Ownership

- (a) Amount beneficially owned: 2,427,969
- (b) Percent of Class: 7.85%

This percentage is determined by dividing the number of shares beneficially owned by DePrince, Race & Zollo, Inc., 2,427,969, by the number of shares outstanding at October 31, 2011 of 30,924,832.

- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has
  - (i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote:  
2,427,969
  - (ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 0
  - (iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:  
2,427,969
  - (iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 0

### Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class

Not Applicable

### Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person

Not Applicable

### Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company or Control Person

Not Applicable

### Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group

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Not Applicable

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group

Not Applicable

Item 10. Certifications

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: February 14, 2012

DePrince, Race & Zollo, Inc.

By: /s/ Angela Johnston

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Name: Angela Johnston

Title: Chief Financial Officer and  
Chief Compliance Officer