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STERLING FINANCIAL CORP /WA/ Form 4 May 27, 2008 OMB APPROVAL FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB 3235-0287 Washington, D.C. 20549 Number: Check this box January 31, Expires: if no longer 2005 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to Estimated average **SECURITIES** Section 16. burden hours per Form 4 or response... 0.5 Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction 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 STANLEY HEIDI B Issuer Symbol STERLING FINANCIAL CORP (Check all applicable) /WA/ [STSA] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner X_Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) 111 N. WALL STREET 05/22/2008 CEO/Pres. of Sterling Savings (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 SPOKANE, WA 99201 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 7. Nature of 6. Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Securities Ownership Indirect (Instr. 3) any Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Beneficially Form: Direct Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned (D) or Ownership Following Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Reported (Instr. 4) (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common 102,510 D Stock Common 401(k) 14,500 I Stock Plan Common Р Ι 05/22/2008 500 6,452 A Spouse 9 9299 Stock

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

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number.

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	 6. Date Exercisable and extionNumber Expiration Date of (Month/Day/Year) B) Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) 		Date	Amou Unde Secur	tle and unt of rrlying rities . 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
Repo	rting O	wners		Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owner Name / Addre	SS	Relationships							
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other					
STANLEY HEIDI B 111 N. WALL STREET SPOKANE, WA 99201			CEO/Pres. of Sterling Savings						
Signatures									
Daniel G. Byrne	05/27/2008								

<u>**</u>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).

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.