

STURKEN CRAIG C  
Form 4  
January 14, 2009

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
STURKEN CRAIG C

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
SPARTAN STORES INC  
[("SPTN")]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
C/O 850 - 76TH STREET SW  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
01/12/2009

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Executive Chairman

GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49518

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 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 Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |                                                    | Code                           | V                                                                 | Amount or Price                                                                               |                                                          |                                            |
| Common Stock <u>(1)</u>         | 01/12/2009                           |                                                    | M                              |                                                                   | 14,062 A \$ 11.5                                                                              | 189,121                                                  | D                                          |
| Common Stock <u>(1) (2)</u>     | 01/12/2009                           |                                                    | S                              |                                                                   | 30,566 D \$ 20.28                                                                             | 158,555                                                  | D                                          |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |                                                    |                                |                                                                   |                                                                                               | 3,860.031                                                | I By 401(k) Plan                           |

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. 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. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Stock Option (Right to Buy)                | \$ 11.5                                                | 01/12/2009                           |                                                    | M                              | 4,687                                                                                   | 05/11/2006 05/10/2015                                    | Common Stock                                                  | 4,687                         |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy)                | \$ 11.5                                                | 01/12/2009                           |                                                    | M                              | 4,687                                                                                   | 05/11/2007 05/10/2015                                    | Common Stock                                                  | 4,687                         |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy)                | \$ 11.5                                                | 01/12/2009                           |                                                    | M                              | 4,688                                                                                   | 05/11/2008 05/10/2015                                    | Common Stock                                                  | 4,688                         |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy)                | \$ 11.5                                                |                                      |                                                    |                                |                                                                                         | 05/11/2009 05/10/2015                                    | Common Stock                                                  | 4,688                         |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                        | Relationships |           |                    |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------|-------|
|                                                                       | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer            | Other |
| STURKEN CRAIG C<br>C/O 850 - 76TH STREET SW<br>GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49518 | X             |           | Executive Chairman |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Daniel C. Persinger, by Power of Attorney  
01/14/2009

\*\*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) The transactions reported on this Form 4 were executed as part of a prearranged trading plan pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
- (2) Represents the aggregate number of shares sold at a weighted average price of \$20.28. The actual sale prices ranged from \$20.11 to \$20.55. Details regarding aggregated sale transactions will be provided upon request.

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.