#### **ABRAMS ROBERT**

Form 4

August 25, 2005

## FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

**OMB APPROVAL** OMB

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

(Last)

(City)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* ABRAMS ROBERT

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Issuer

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

STERLING BANCORP [STL]

(Middle)

(Zin)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

650 FIFTH AVENUE, 4TH FLOOR

(First)

08/24/2005

\_X\_\_ Director 10% Owner Other (specify Officer (give title below)

(Check all applicable)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

(Street)

(State)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

\_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

#### NEW YORK, NY 10019

(City)	(State) (	Table Table	e I - Non-D	erivative	Secur	ities Acq	uired, Disposed of	f, or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Transaction(A) or D		ities Acquired isposed of (D) 4 and 5)		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code V	Amount		Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	08/24/2005		F	4,498	D	\$0	25,146	D	
Common Stock	08/24/2005		M	2,287	A	\$ 15.47	27,433	D	
Common Stock	08/24/2005		M	4,356	A	\$ 14.39	31,789	D	

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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# $\label{thm:convergence} \begin{tabular}{ll} Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned \\ (\emph{e.g.}, puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) \\ \end{tabular}$

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. 5. Number Transaction Derivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amo Underlying Secu (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	An or Nu of Sh
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 15.47	08/24/2005		M	2,287	06/29/2002(1)	06/29/2006	Common Stock	2
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 14.39	08/24/2005		M	4,356	07/31/2002(1)	07/31/2006	Common Stock	4
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 16.61					07/31/2003(1)	07/31/2007	Common Stock	4
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 18.61					06/30/2004(1)	06/30/2008	Common Stock	4
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 19.71					07/31/2004(1)	07/31/2008	Common Stock	4
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 23.02					06/30/2005(1)	06/30/2009	Common Stock	4
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 22.47					07/30/2005(1)	07/30/2009	Common Stock	4
Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 21.35					06/30/2006(1)	06/30/2010	Common Stock	4
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 19.85					06/28/2003(1)	06/28/2007	Common Stock	9

## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

ABRAMS ROBERT
650 FIFTH AVENUE
4TH FLOOR

### **Signatures**

NEW YORK, NY 10019

/s/ Abrams,
Robert

\*\*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) Non-qualified stock options become exercisable in installments over a four year period, commencing on the first anniversary of the grant for a term of five years from the date of grant (first exercisable date listed).

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.

Reporting Owners 3