Fredston Dale C Form 5 February 14, 2007

FORM 5

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0362 Number: January 31,

2005

no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Check this box if

Expires: ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL

Estimated average burden hours per OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES 1.0 response...

See Instruction Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 1(b). Form 3 Holdings Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section Reported 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Form 4

Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer Fredston Dale C Symbol STERLING BANCORP [STL] (Check all applicable) 3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Last) (First) (Middle) (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner _ Officer (give title X Other (specify 12/31/2006 below) below) 650 FIFTH AVENUE Secretary-First Vice President (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting Filed(Month/Day/Year) (check applicable line)

NEW YORK, NYÂ 10019

(State)

(Zip)

(City)

X Form Filed by One Reporting Person Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of (Month/Day/Year) Securities Form: Direct Indirect Security Execution Date, if Transaction Acquired (A) or Beneficially (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) (D) or Beneficial (Instr. 8) (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned at end Indirect (I) Ownership of Issuer's (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) (A) Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4) Amount (D) Price

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information **SEC 2270** contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exercisable and	7. Title and Amo
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction	Number	Expiration Date	Underlying Secur
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	2	

(9-02)

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Derivative Securities
Security Acquired
(A) or
Disposed
of (D)
(Instr. 3,

4, and 5)(A) (D) Date Exercisable Expiration Title

Date

An

or Nu of Sha

3

Non-qualified Stock Options \$ 26.94 \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} 12/19/2005 $\underline{(1)}$ 03/22/2011 Common Stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Fredston Dale C 650 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, NYÂ 10019

Â Secretary-First Vice President Â

Signatures

/s/ Fredston, Dale C 02/15/2007

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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).

On December 15, 2005 the Board of Directors voted to accelerate the vesting and exercisability of any outstanding unvested and unexercisable non-qualified stock options granted to officers on March 22, 2005 effective as of December 19, 2005; provided, however,

that transfer of shares acquired by such exercise is restricted until the date that the option would have been exercisable prior to such change. Such restrictions on transfer will expire as to 10% of the grant on the first anniversary of the date of grant, an additional 15% of the grant on the second anniversary of the date of grant, an additional 25% of the grant on the third anniversary of the date of grant and the remaining 50% of the grant on the fourth anniversary of the grant.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.

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