

STERLING FINANCIAL CORP /WA/

Form 5

February 11, 2005

**FORM 5****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**Check this box if  
no longer subject  
to Section 16.Form 4 or Form  
5 obligations  
may continue.See Instruction  
1(b).Form 3 Holdings  
Reported  
Form 4  
Transactions  
Reported**ANNUAL 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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0362Expires: January 31,  
2005Estimated average  
burden hours per  
response... 1.01. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**KIRSCHBAUM JAMES L**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**111 N. WALL STREET**

(Street)

**SPOKANE, WA 99201**

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
**STERLING FINANCIAL CORP  
/WA/ [STSA]**3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended  
(Month/Day/Year)  
**12/31/2005**4. If Amendment, Date Original  
Filed(Month/Day/Year)5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

☐ Director ☐ 10% Owner  
☒ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify below)

Vice President-Sterling Sav. P

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

☒ 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 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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	02/11/2005	02/02/2004	J <sup>(1)</sup>	Amount (A) or (D) Price \$ 7,433 D 37.95	11,663	D	Â
Common Stock	02/11/2005	12/31/2004	J <sup>(2)</sup>	Amount (A) or (D) Price \$ 1,814 A 39.26	2,672	I	401k ownership

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of  
securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.**Persons who respond to the collection of information  
contained in this form are not required to respond unless  
the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**SEC 2270  
(9-02)

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**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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. of D S B O E I F (I
					(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
KIRSCHBAUM JAMES L 111 N. WALL STREET SPOKANE, WA 99201	Â	Â	Â Vice President-Sterling Sav. P	Â

## Signatures

E. Marie Hirsch 02/11/2005

\*\*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) Adjustment for (7,433) to reflect the disposition of shares, 6,413 for an exercise/same-day sale and 1,020 share adjustment to balance ownership.
- (2) To balance 401(k) share ownership at 12/31/2004. -- This footnote reflects the shares owned by the employee as well as the company match at 12/31/04.

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.