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STERLING FINANCIAL CORP /WA/ Form 15-12B May 01, 2014

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

FORM 15

CERTIFICATION AND NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF REGISTRATION UNDER SECTION 12(g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 OR SUSPENSION OF DUTY TO FILE REPORTS UNDER SECTIONS 13 AND 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934.

Commission File Number: 001-35869

STERLING FINANCIAL CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

111 North Wall Street, Spokane, Washington 99201 (509) 458-3711

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Common Stock, no par value per share (Title of each class of securities covered by this Form)

None

(Titles of all other classes of securities for which a duty to file reports under Section 13(a) or 15(d) remains)

Please place an X in the box(es) to designate the appropriate rule provision(s) relied upon to terminate or suspend the duty to file reports:

Rule	12g-4(a)(1)	\mathbf{X}
Rule	12g-4(a)(2)	o
Rule	12h-3(b)(l)(i)	X
Rule	12h-3(b)(1)(ii)	o
Rule	15d-6	o

Approximate number of holders of record as of the certification or notice date: None

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Umpqua Holdings Corporation, as successor to Sterling Financial Corporation, has caused this Certification and Notice to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned duly authorized person.

Date: May 1, 2014

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Umpqua Holdings Corporation, as successor to Sterling Financial Corporation

By: /s/ Steven L. Philpott

Name: Steven L. Philpott Title: Executive Vice

> President, General Counsel and Secretary