Colosimo Tor	m								
Form 4	2000								
February 03,							PPROVAL		
FORM	UNITED ST	NITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549				OMB Number:	3235-0287		
Check this if no long subject to Section 16 Form 4 or Form 5 obligation may conti <i>See</i> Instru 1(b).	s box er 5. STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF 5. 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								
(Print or Type R	Cesponses)								
1. Name and Ad Colosimo To	ddress of Reporting Pers	Symbol	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol STERLING FINANCIAL CORP			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
		/WA/ [S		L CORF	(Check all applicable)				
(M			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/03/2009			Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below) Sec 16 Officer			
(Street) 4. If Amer			ndment, Date Origir nth/Day/Year)	al	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person				
SPOKANE,	WA 99201		Form filed by More Person						
(City)	(State) (Zip	^{p)} Tabl	e I - Non-Derivativ	e Securities Acq	uired, Disposed of	, or Beneficial	ly Owned		
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)			Transaction(A) or l Code (Instr. 3	(A) or	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Indirect Beneficial		
Common Stock	02/03/2009		P 1,000	A \$ 1.639	18,000	D			
Common Stock					2,481	Ι	401k Shares		

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.

Edgar Filing: Colosimo Tom - Form 4

 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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. orNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		Date	Amou Unde Secur	le and int of rlying ities . 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secu Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
Colosimo Tom 111 N. WALL STREET SPOKANE, WA 99201			Sec 16 Officer				
Signatures							
/s/ Daniel G. Byrne, Chief Fina Officer	02/03/2009						
**Signature of Reporting Person			Date				
Evenlaw attack of Da							

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).

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.