ABRAMS ROBERT
Form 5
February 05, 2008

FORM 5

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

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:	3235-0362
Expires:	January 31, 2005
Estimated average burden hours per response...	1.0

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
ABRAMS ROBERT

(Last) (First) (Middle)

650 FIFTH AVENUE,Â 4TH FLOOR

(Street)

NEW YORK,Â NYÂ 10019

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
STERLING BANCORP [STL]

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)
12/31/2007

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

__X__ Director
_____ 10% Owner
_____ Officer (give title below)
_____ Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

_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 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)
				Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	33,360	D	Â

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)

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 Amo Underlying Secur (Instr. 3 and 4)	
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Am or Nu of Sha
Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy)	$ 17.73	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	06/30/2004(1)	06/30/2008	Common Stock	4,
Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy)	$ 18.78	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	07/31/2004(1)	07/31/2008	Common Stock	4,
Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy)	$ 21.93	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	06/30/2005(1)	06/30/2009	Common Stock	4,
Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy)	$ 21.41	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	07/30/2005(1)	07/30/2009	Common Stock	4,
Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy)	$ 20.34	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	12/19/2005(2)	06/30/2010	Common Stock	4,
Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy)	$ 19.5	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	06/30/2007(3)	06/30/2011	Common Stock	4,

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ABRAMS ROBERT 650 FIFTH AVENUE 4TH FLOOR NEW YORK,Â NYÂ 10019	Â X	Â	Â	Â

Signatures

/s/ Abrams, Robert	02/04/2008
	Date

**Signature of 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).

(1) Transfer of shares acquired by exercise of non-qualified stock options is restricted to even installments over a four year period commencing on the first anniversary of the grant.

(2) 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 held by non-employee directors, 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.

(3) Non-employee directors were granted options for 4,753 shares of common stock pursuant to the final grant under an automatic grant of options adopted in 2002.

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.