

SCHULTHEIS ANDREW J

Form 4

June 09, 2011

FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box
 if no longer
 subject to
 Section 16.
 Form 4 or
 Form 5
 obligations
 may continue.
See Instruction
 1(b).

**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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 SCHULTHEIS ANDREW J

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
 Symbol
 STERLING FINANCIAL CORP
 /WA/ [STSA]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
 Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 111 NORTH WALL STREET
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 06/08/2011

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
 ___X___ Officer (give title below) ____ Other (specify below)
 General Counsel

SPOKANE, WA 99201

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
 Applicable Line)
 ___X___ Form filed by One Reporting Person
 ____ Form filed by More than One Reporting
 Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code	V	Amount (A) or (D)	Price		
Common Stock	06/08/2011		M		1,388	A	(2) 1,388	D

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

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 information contained in this form are not
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SEC 1474
 (9-02)

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

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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 Amount or Number of Shares
Restricted Stock Unit	<u>(1)</u>	06/08/2011		A	5,550	<u>(1)</u>	Common Stock	5,550
Restricted Stock Unit	<u>(1)</u>	06/08/2011		M	1,388	<u>(1)</u>	Common Stock	1,388

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SCHULTHEIS ANDREW J 111 NORTH WALL STREET SPOKANE, WA 99201			General Counsel	

Signatures

/s/ Daniel G. Byrne,
attorney-in-fact

06/09/2011

__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) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of common stock. 25% of the restricted stock units vest immediately upon grant (June 8, 2011), 25% of the restricted stock units are scheduled to vest each year over the next 3 years on the grant's anniversary date (totaling 75% over the 3 year time period), subject to the reporting person's continued employment with the Company on such date.

(2) Represents the vesting of 1,388 restricted stock units and subsequent issuance of 1,388 shares of common stock on June 8, 2011.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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