

State Auto Financial CORP  
 Form 3  
 November 16, 2015

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * |         | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement  | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol |   |
| Â Garland Kim Burton                      |         | (Month/Day/Year)  | State Auto Financial CORP [STFC]            |   |
| (Last)                                    | (First) | (Middle)  | 11/06/2015                                  |   |
| 518 EAST BROAD STREET                     |         | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  |   | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)  |
| (Street)                                  |         | (Check all applicable)  |   | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  |
| COLUMBUS,Â OHÂ 43215                      |         | <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other<br>(give title below)    (specify below) |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br><input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |
| (City)                                    | (State) | (Zip)   | Senior Vice President                       |   |

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security<br>(Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned<br>(Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership<br>(Instr. 5) |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Common Shares without par value    | 4,406 <sup>(1)</sup>                                     | D   | Â  |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

**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.**

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 4) | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership<br>(Instr. 5) |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
|   | Date Exercisable  | Title  | Amount or Number of                                    |  |  |

|  |            |            |                  | Shares |         | (I)        |   |
|--|------------|------------|------------------|--------|---------|------------|---|
|  |            |            |                  |        |         | (Instr. 5) |   |
| Employee Stock Option<br>(Right to Buy)<br>Non-qualified | 08/24/2016 | 08/24/2025 | Common<br>Shares | 9,257  | \$ 22.6 | D          | Â |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                     | Relationships |           |                         |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                 | Other |
| Garland Kim Burton<br>518 EAST BROAD STREEET<br>COLUMBUS, OH 43215 | Â             | Â         | Â Senior Vice President | Â     |

## Signatures

/s/ Kim B. Garland by  
Melissa A. Centers attorney  
in fact, per POA attached

11/16/2015

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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) Includes the following restricted stock awards: 2 awards of 2,214 and 2,192 shares issued on 8/24/2015 which have a 3-year cliff vest based on service only.

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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