

CAPPELLI LOUIS J
 Form 5
 February 10, 2011

FORM 5

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

OMB APPROVAL

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

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 Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 CAPPELLI LOUIS J

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 Chairman & CEO

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 650 FIFTH AVENUE, 4TH FL
 (Street)

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)
 12/31/2010

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (check applicable line)

NEW YORK, NY 10019

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)	(A) or (D)	Price	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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	^	^	^	^	^	^	744,928 ⁽¹⁾	D	^
Common Stock	^	^	^	^	^	^	6,602	I	By IRA
Common Stock	^	^	^	^	^	^	711	I	By Spouse ⁽²⁾

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

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SEC 2270 (9-02)

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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 Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
Non-qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 14.6				(A) (D)	Date Exercisable: 02/06/2003 Expiration Date: 02/06/2012	Title: Common Stock Amount or Number of Shares: 47,2

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CAPPELLI LOUIS J 650 FIFTH AVENUE, 4TH FL NEW YORK, NY 10019	X		Chairman & CEO	

Signatures

Louis J. Cappelli 01/11/2011
 **Signature of Date
 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) Includes 21,939 restricted common stock issued March 25, 2010 pursuant to the Sterling Bancorp Stock Incentive Plan consistent with the requirements of the TARP Interim Final Rule. The shares will vest 50%, 25% and 25% on the second, third and fourth anniversaries of the grant date, subject to (1) accelerated vesting upon death, disability and change in control and (2) continued vesting upon retirement after the second anniversary of the grant date subject to compliance with a non-compete. The restricted stock will be transferable in 25% increments in accordance with the Company's repayment of the TARP funds.
 - (2) Owned beneficially and of record by Virginia M. Cappelli, wife of Louis J. Cappelli. Louis J. Cappelli expressly declares that the filing of the Annual Statement of Changes shall not be construed as an admission that he is, for the purpose of Section 16 of this Act, the beneficial owner of any of the securities in this note and he hereby disclaims any beneficial ownership of the securities by this note.
- 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.