STERLING BANCORP

Form 5

January 31, 2008

FORM 5

OMB APPROVAL

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

3235-0362 Number: January 31,

OMB

Expires:

no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Check this box if

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ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

1.0 response...

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 1(b). Form 3 Holdings Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section Reported 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 Form 4

Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer CAPPELLI LOUIS J Symbol STERLING BANCORP [STL] (Check all applicable) (First) 3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Last) (Middle) (Month/Day/Year) _X_ Director 10% Owner Other (specify _X_ Officer (give title 12/31/2007 below) below) 650 FIFTH AVENUE, 4TH Chairman and CEO **FLOOR** (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting Filed(Month/Day/Year) (check applicable line)

NEW YORK, NYÂ 10019

(State)

(City)

X Form Filed by One Reporting Person Form Filed by More than One Reporting

(City)	(State) (A	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. Securiti (A) or Dis (D) (Instr. 3, 4)	posed	of	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)
Common Stock	12/12/2007	Â	G		D	\$ 0	639,756	D	Â
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	6,602	I	By IRA
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	711	I	Owned By Spouse (1)

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

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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)				7. Title and Amo Underlying Secu (Instr. 3 and 4)	
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	An Nu Sha
Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 10.34	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/10/1999(2)	02/10/2008	Common Stock	24
Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 8.69	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/12/2000(2)	02/12/2009	Common Stock	24
Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 6.94	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/11/2001(2)	02/11/2010	Common Stock	14
Non-qualified Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 14.6	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/06/2003(2)	02/06/2012	Common Stock	4

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
CAPPELLI LOUIS J 650 FIFTH AVENUE 4TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10019	ÂX	Â	Chairman and CEO	Â				

Signatures

Reporting Person

/s/ Cappelli,
Louis J

**Signature of Date

Reporting Owners 2

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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).
- Owned beneficially and of record by Virginia M. Cappelli, wife of Louis J. Cappelli. Louis J. Cappelli expressly declares that the filing of (1) this 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.
- (2) Non-qualified options are exercisable commencing on the first anniversary of the grant for a term of 10 years from grant date (first exercisable date listed).

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.