

Colosimo Tom  
Form 5  
February 13, 2006

**FORM 5**

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

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

**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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
Colosimo Tom

(Last) (First) (Middle)

111 N. WALL STREET

(Street)

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

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/31/2005

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

☐ Director ☐ 10% Owner  
☒ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify below)  
Sec 16 Officer

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

SPOKANE, WA 99201

(City) (State) (Zip)

☒ 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<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired<br>(A) or Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned at end<br>of Issuer's<br>Fiscal Year<br>(Instr. 3 and<br>4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Common<br>Stock                       | 02/13/2006                              | 12/31/2005                                                  | J <sup>(1)</sup>                     | 90<br>Amount (A)<br>or (D)<br>Price<br>\$<br>24.98                      | 1,213                                                                                                           | I                                                                    | 401K<br>Shares                                                    |

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)**

## Edgar Filing: Colosimo Tom - Form 5

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3,<br>4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Underlying<br>Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|

| Date<br>Exercisable | Expiration<br>Date | Title | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------|----------------------------------------|
| (A) (D)             |                    |       |                                        |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                          | Relationships |           |                  |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|------------------|-------|
|                                                         | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer          | Other |
| Colosimo Tom<br>111 N. WALL STREET<br>SPOKANE, WA 99201 | Â             | Â         | Â Sec 16 Officer | Â     |

## Signatures

E. Marie Hirsch 02/13/2006

\_\_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) To balance 401(k) share ownership at 12/31/2005. -- This footnote reflects the shares owned by the employee as well as the company match at 12/31/2005.

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.