

<b>Form 5500</b>  Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service  Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration  Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	<b>Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan</b>  This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6047(e), 6057(b), and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).  <p style="text-align: center;">▶ <b>Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.</b></p>	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089  <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">2011</div>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b>
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<b>Part I</b>	<b>Annual Report Identification Information</b>
For calendar plan year 2011 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2011</u> and ending <u>12/31/2011</u>	
<b>A</b> This return/report is for:	<input type="checkbox"/> a multiemployer plan; <input type="checkbox"/> a multiple-employer plan; or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a single-employer plan; <input type="checkbox"/> a DFE (specify) ____
<b>B</b> This return/report is:	<input type="checkbox"/> the first return/report; <input type="checkbox"/> the final return/report; <input type="checkbox"/> an amended return/report; <input type="checkbox"/> a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months).
<b>C</b> If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>D</b> Check box if filing under:	<input type="checkbox"/> Form 5558; <input type="checkbox"/> automatic extension; <input type="checkbox"/> the DFVC program; <input type="checkbox"/> special extension (enter description)

<b>Part II</b>	<b>Basic Plan Information</b> —enter all requested information				
<b>1a</b> Name of plan STERLING SAVINGS BANK EMPLOYEE SAVINGS AND INVESTMENT PLAN AND TRUST	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;"><b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">001</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>1c</b> Effective date of plan 07/01/1985</td> </tr> </table>	<b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001	<b>1c</b> Effective date of plan 07/01/1985	
<b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001				
<b>1c</b> Effective date of plan 07/01/1985					
<b>2a</b> Plan sponsor's name and address, including room or suite number (Employer, if for single-employer plan)  STERLING SAVINGS BANK   111 NORTH WALL STREET SPOKANE, WA 99201	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td><b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) 91-1166044</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2c</b> Sponsor's telephone number 509-458-2711</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions) 522110</td> </tr> </table>	<b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) 91-1166044	<b>2c</b> Sponsor's telephone number 509-458-2711	<b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions) 522110	
<b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) 91-1166044					
<b>2c</b> Sponsor's telephone number 509-458-2711					
<b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions) 522110					

**Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.**

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

<b>SIGN HERE</b>	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	07/03/2012	KIMBERLY BRIDGES
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
<b>SIGN HERE</b>	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	07/03/2012	KARLA GEHLEN
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
<b>SIGN HERE</b>			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice and OMB Control Numbers, see the instructions for Form 5500.

Form 5500 (2011)  
v.012611

<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address (if same as plan sponsor, enter "Same") STERLING SAVINGS BANK  111 NORTH WALL STREET SPOKANE, WA 99201	<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN 91-1166044  <b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number 509-458-2711
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<b>4</b> If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the name, EIN and the plan number from the last return/report:  <b>a</b> Sponsor's name	<b>4b</b> EIN  <b>4c</b> PN
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<b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	<b>5</b>	3090
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<b>6</b> Number of participants as of the end of the plan year (welfare plans complete only lines <b>6a</b> , <b>6b</b> , <b>6c</b> , and <b>6d</b> ).		
<b>a</b> Active participants.....	<b>6a</b>	2578
<b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits.....	<b>6b</b>	9
<b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits.....	<b>6c</b>	538
<b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines <b>6a</b> , <b>6b</b> , and <b>6c</b> .....	<b>6d</b>	3125
<b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.....	<b>6e</b>	2
<b>f</b> Total. Add lines <b>6d</b> and <b>6e</b> .....	<b>6f</b>	3127
<b>g</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item).....	<b>6g</b>	2857
<b>h</b> Number of participants that terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	<b>6h</b>	221

<b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item) .....	<b>7</b>	
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**8a** If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions:  
 2E 2H 2J 2K 2T 3H

**b** If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions:

<b>9a</b> Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)	<b>9b</b> Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)
(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust (4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust (4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor

**10** Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

**a Pension Schedules**

- (1) ☒ **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- (2) ☐ **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (3) ☐ **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary

**b General Schedules**

- (1) ☒ **H** (Financial Information)
- (2) ☐ **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- (3) ☐ **A** (Insurance Information)
- (4) ☒ **C** (Service Provider Information)
- (5) ☐ **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- (6) ☐ **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

<b>SCHEDULE C</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b> Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	<b>Service Provider Information</b> This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ <b>File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	OMB No. 1210-0110
		<b>2011</b>
		<b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>

For calendar plan year 2011 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2011** and ending **12/31/2011**

<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>STERLING SAVINGS BANK EMPLOYEE SAVINGS AND INVESTMENT PLAN AND TRUST</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <b>001</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>STERLING SAVINGS BANK</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>91-1166044</b>

**Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)**

You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

**1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation**

**a** Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions)..... ☒ Yes ☐ No

**b** If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

**(b)** Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation  
**FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INST. OPS. CO.**

**04-2647786**

**(b)** Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosure on eligible indirect compensation

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**(b)** Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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**2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation.** Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

04-2647786

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
64 37 65 71 60	RECORDKEEPER	73588	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	0	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

MULTNOMAH GROUP

20-0364973

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
15 16 27	INVESTMENT ADVISOR	32000	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

STRATEGIC ADVISORS, INC.

04-2654524

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
27	ADVISOR	6089	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

**2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation.** Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

**(a)** Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

<b>(b)</b> Service Code(s)	<b>(c)</b> Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	<b>(d)</b> Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	<b>(e)</b> Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	<b>(f)</b> Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	<b>(g)</b> Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	<b>(h)</b> Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

**(a)** Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

<b>(b)</b> Service Code(s)	<b>(c)</b> Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	<b>(d)</b> Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	<b>(e)</b> Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	<b>(f)</b> Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	<b>(g)</b> Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	<b>(h)</b> Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

**(a)** Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

<b>(b)</b> Service Code(s)	<b>(c)</b> Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	<b>(d)</b> Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	<b>(e)</b> Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	<b>(f)</b> Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	<b>(g)</b> Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	<b>(h)</b> Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

**Part I Service Provider Information (continued)**

**3** If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
ABF LG CAP VAL INV - STATE STREET B  04-1867445	0.40%

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
AF GRTH FUND AMER R4 - AMERICAN FUN  95-2566717	0.35%

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
BARON ASSET FUND - DST SYSTEMS, INC  43-1581814	0.40%

**Part I Service Provider Information (continued)**

**3** If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 60%;"> <b>(d)</b> Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation   DODGE &amp; COX INTL STK - BOSTON FINAN    P.O. BOX 8480  BOSTON, MA 02266 </div> <div style="width: 40%;"> <b>(e)</b> Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.   0.10% </div> </div>		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 60%;"> <b>(a)</b> Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2   FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL </div> <div style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"> <b>(b)</b> Service Codes (see instructions)   60 </div> <div style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"> <b>(c)</b> Enter amount of indirect compensation   0 </div> </div>		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 60%;"> <b>(d)</b> Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation   GS GROWTH OPPS A - GOLDMAN, SACHS &amp;   13-5108880 </div> <div style="width: 40%;"> <b>(e)</b> Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.   0.35% </div> </div>		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 60%;"> <b>(a)</b> Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2   </div> <div style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"> <b>(b)</b> Service Codes (see instructions)   </div> <div style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"> <b>(c)</b> Enter amount of indirect compensation   </div> </div>		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 60%;"> <b>(d)</b> Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation   </div> <div style="width: 40%;"> <b>(e)</b> Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.   </div> </div>		



**Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information**

**4** Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

**Part III** **Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)**  
(complete as many entries as needed)

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>SCHEDULE H</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Financial Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).  <b>► File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	OMB No. 1210-0110  <div style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">2011</div>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b>
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For calendar plan year 2011 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2011</u> and ending <u>12/31/2011</u>		
<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>STERLING SAVINGS BANK EMPLOYEE SAVINGS AND INVESTMENT PLAN AND TRUST</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	<u>001</u>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>STERLING SAVINGS BANK</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN)  <u>91-1166044</u>	

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Asset and Liability Statement</b>
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**1** Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
<b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....	<b>1a</b>		
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....	<b>1b(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Other.....	<b>1b(3)</b>	635	13530
<b>c</b> General investments:			
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....	<b>1c(1)</b>	4253360	4214929
<b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities.....	<b>1c(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(3)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> All other.....	<b>1c(3)(B)</b>		
<b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(4)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Common .....	<b>1c(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests .....	<b>1c(5)</b>		
<b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property) .....	<b>1c(6)</b>		
<b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>1c(7)</b>		
<b>(8)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>1c(8)</b>	1481005	1876377
<b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts.....	<b>1c(9)</b>		
<b>(10)</b> Value of interest in pooled separate accounts.....	<b>1c(10)</b>		
<b>(11)</b> Value of interest in master trust investment accounts .....	<b>1c(11)</b>		
<b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>1c(12)</b>		
<b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	<b>1c(13)</b>	60670813	61113444
<b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	<b>1c(14)</b>		
<b>(15)</b> Other .....	<b>1c(15)</b>		

**1d** Employer-related investments:

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities .....	<b>1d(1)</b>	2687430	3558898
(2) Employer real property .....	<b>1d(2)</b>		
<b>e</b> Buildings and other property used in plan operation .....	<b>1e</b>		
<b>f</b> Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e) .....	<b>1f</b>	69093243	70777178

**Liabilities**

<b>g</b> Benefit claims payable .....	<b>1g</b>		
<b>h</b> Operating payables .....	<b>1h</b>		
<b>i</b> Acquisition indebtedness .....	<b>1i</b>		
<b>j</b> Other liabilities .....	<b>1j</b>		
<b>k</b> Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j) .....	<b>1k</b>	0	0

**Net Assets**

<b>l</b> Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f) .....	<b>1l</b>	69093243	70777178
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**Part II Income and Expense Statement**

**2** Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

**Income**

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
<b>a Contributions:</b>			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: <b>(A)</b> Employers .....	<b>2a(1)(A)</b>	2760164	
<b>(B)</b> Participants .....	<b>2a(1)(B)</b>	8901915	
<b>(C)</b> Others (including rollovers) .....	<b>2a(1)(C)</b>	617954	
(2) Noncash contributions .....	<b>2a(2)</b>		12280033
(3) Total contributions. Add lines <b>2a(1)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , <b>(C)</b> , and line <b>2a(2)</b> .....	<b>2a(3)</b>		
<b>b Earnings on investments:</b>			
(1) Interest:			
<b>(A)</b> Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit) .....	<b>2b(1)(A)</b>	1142	
<b>(B)</b> U.S. Government securities .....	<b>2b(1)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Corporate debt instruments .....	<b>2b(1)(C)</b>		
<b>(D)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>2b(1)(D)</b>		
<b>(E)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>2b(1)(E)</b>	73035	
<b>(F)</b> Other .....	<b>2b(1)(F)</b>		
(G) Total interest. Add lines <b>2b(1)(A)</b> through <b>(F)</b> .....	<b>2b(1)(G)</b>		74177
(2) Dividends: <b>(A)</b> Preferred stock .....	<b>2b(2)(A)</b>		2106683
<b>(B)</b> Common stock .....	<b>2b(2)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds) .....	<b>2b(2)(C)</b>	2106683	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines <b>2b(2)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , and <b>(C)</b> .....	<b>2b(2)(D)</b>		2106683
(3) Rents .....	<b>2b(3)</b>		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: <b>(A)</b> Aggregate proceeds .....	<b>2b(4)(A)</b>	583617	
<b>(B)</b> Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions) .....	<b>2b(4)(B)</b>	671788	
<b>(C)</b> Subtract line <b>2b(4)(B)</b> from line <b>2b(4)(A)</b> and enter result .....	<b>2b(4)(C)</b>		-88171

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
<b>2b</b> (5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate.....	<b>2b(5)(A)</b>		
(B) Other .....	<b>2b(5)(B)</b>	-286811	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines <b>2b(5)(A)</b> and <b>(B)</b> .....	<b>2b(5)(C)</b>		-286811
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts .....	<b>2b(6)</b>		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts .....	<b>2b(7)</b>		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts .....	<b>2b(8)</b>		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>2b(9)</b>		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	<b>2b(10)</b>		-3914606
<b>c</b> Other income.....	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	<b>2d</b>		10171305

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers .....	<b>2e(1)</b>	8375398	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits .....	<b>2e(2)</b>		
(3) Other .....	<b>2e(3)</b>		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines <b>2e(1)</b> through <b>(3)</b> .....	<b>2e(4)</b>		8375398
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions) .....	<b>2f</b>		
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	<b>2g</b>		
<b>h</b> Interest expense.....	<b>2h</b>		
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses: (1) Professional fees .....	<b>2i(1)</b>		
(2) Contract administrator fees .....	<b>2i(2)</b>		
(3) Investment advisory and management fees .....	<b>2i(3)</b>	6089	
(4) Other .....	<b>2i(4)</b>	105883	
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines <b>2i(1)</b> through <b>(4)</b> .....	<b>2i(5)</b>		111972
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	<b>2j</b>		8487370

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> .....	<b>2k</b>		1683935
<b>l</b> Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	<b>2l(1)</b>		
(2) From this plan .....	<b>2l(2)</b>		

**Part III Accountant's Opinion**

**3** Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

**a** The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) ☒ Unqualified (2) ☐ Qualified (3) ☐ Disclaimer (4) ☐ Adverse

**b** Did the accountant perform a limited scope audit pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and/or 103-12(d)? ☐ Yes ☒ No

**c** Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: BDO USA LLP

(2) EIN: 13-5381590

**d** The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** because:

(1) ☐ This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, or MTIA. (2) ☐ It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

**Part IV Compliance Questions**

- 4** CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete 4l.

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
<b>a</b> Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.).....		X	
<b>b</b> Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.).....		X	
<b>c</b> Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.) .....		X	
<b>d</b> Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.).....		X	
<b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?.....	X		10000000
<b>f</b> Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty? .....		X	
<b>g</b> Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser? .....		X	
<b>h</b> Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser? .....		X	
<b>i</b> Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.).....	X		
<b>j</b> Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.).....		X	
<b>k</b> Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?.....		X	
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan? .....		X	
<b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.).....		X	
<b>n</b> If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3. ....		X	

- 5a** Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year?

If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year..... ☐ Yes ☒ No Amount:

- 5b** If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

**5b(1)** Name of plan(s)

5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

<b>SCHEDULE R</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service  Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration  Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	<b>Retirement Plan Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).  ▶ <b>File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	OMB No. 1210-0110  <b>2011</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
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For calendar plan year 2011 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2011 and ending 12/31/2011

<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>STERLING SAVINGS BANK EMPLOYEE SAVINGS AND INVESTMENT PLAN AND TRUST</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>001</u>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>STERLING SAVINGS BANK</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>91-1166044</u>

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Distributions</b>
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All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.

<b>1</b> Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	<b>1</b>	<u>0</u>
<b>2</b> Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits):  EIN(s): <u>04-6568107</u>		
Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.		
<b>3</b> Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year.....	<b>3</b>	

<b>Part II</b>	<b>Funding Information</b> (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part)
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<b>4</b> Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)?.....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.			
<b>5</b> If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.			
<b>6 a</b> Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived) .....	<b>6a</b>		
<b>b</b> Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year .....	<b>6b</b>		
<b>c</b> Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount).....	<b>6c</b>		
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.			
<b>7</b> Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<b>8</b> If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change?.....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

<b>Part III</b>	<b>Amendments</b>
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<b>9</b> If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box.....	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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<b>Part IV</b>	<b>ESOPs</b> (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under Section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
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<b>10</b> Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?.....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>11 a</b> Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>b</b> If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.).....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>12</b> Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

**Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

**13** Enter the following information for each employer that contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year (measured in dollars). See instructions. *Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.*

**a** Name of contributing employer

**b** EIN

**c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete items 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer

**b** EIN

**c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete items 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer

**b** EIN

**c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete items 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer

**b** EIN

**c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete items 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer

**b** EIN

**c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete items 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer

**b** EIN

**c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete items 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_



- 14** Enter the number of participants on whose behalf no contributions were made by an employer as an employer of the participant for:

<b>a</b> The current year .....	<b>14a</b>	
<b>b</b> The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year .....	<b>14b</b>	
<b>c</b> The second preceding plan year .....	<b>14c</b>	

- 15** Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

<b>a</b> The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year .....	<b>15a</b>	
<b>b</b> The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year .....	<b>15b</b>	

- 16** Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

<b>a</b> Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year .....	<b>16a</b>	
<b>b</b> If item 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers .....	<b>16b</b>	

- 17** If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment. .... ☐

**Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

- 18** If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment ..... ☐

- 19** If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete items (a) through (c)

- a** Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:  
 Stock: \_\_\_\_\_% Investment-Grade Debt: \_\_\_\_\_% High-Yield Debt: \_\_\_\_\_% Real Estate: \_\_\_\_\_% Other: \_\_\_\_\_%
- b** Provide the average duration of the combined investment-grade and high-yield debt:  
☐ 0-3 years ☐ 3-6 years ☐ 6-9 years ☐ 9-12 years ☐ 12-15 years ☐ 15-18 years ☐ 18-21 years ☐ 21 years or more
- c** What duration measure was used to calculate item 19(b)?  
☐ Effective duration ☐ Macaulay duration ☐ Modified duration ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_



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Spokane, WA 99201

## Independent Auditors' Report

To the Participants and Administrative  
Committee of the Sterling Savings Bank  
Employee Savings and Investment Plan and Trust  
Spokane, WA

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the Sterling Savings Bank Employee Savings and Investment Plan and Trust (the "Plan") as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2011. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2011, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2011 is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. Such information is the responsibility of the Plan's management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

*BDO USA, LLP*

BDO USA, LLP  
Spokane, Washington

June 25, 2012

BDO USA, LLP, a Delaware limited liability partnership, is the U.S. member of BDO International Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, and forms part of the international BDO network of independent member firms.

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**Sterling Savings Bank**  
**Employee Savings and Investment Plan and Trust**  
**Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)**  
**December 31, 2011**  
**EIN: 91-1166044 Plan Number: 001**

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	Description of Investment including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	Cost	Current Value
	Money Market Accounts			
*	Fidelity Retire Money Market	Money Market, 4,075,266 units	**	\$ 4,075,266
*	Fidelity US Treasury	Money Market, 140,625 units	**	140,625
*	Cash Equivalents	N/A	**	13,530
				<u>4,229,421</u>
	Common Stock			
*	Sterling Financial Corporation	Common stock, 213,050 shares	**	3,557,937
	Mutual Funds			
*	Fidelity Freedom 2020	Mutual fund, 627,396 shares	**	8,231,432
*	Fidelity Freedom 2025	Mutual fund, 692,387 shares	**	7,484,705
*	Fidelity Freedom 2015	Mutual fund, 564,110 shares	**	6,165,723
*	Fidelity Freedom 2030	Mutual fund, 435,670 shares	**	5,594,000
*	Fidelity Freedom 2035	Mutual fund, 402,399 shares	**	4,245,306
	Dodge & Cox International Stock	Mutual fund, 127,292 shares	**	3,722,007
	American Fund Growth Fund	Mutual fund, 96,790 shares	**	2,760,455
*	Fidelity Total Bond	Mutual fund, 244,254 shares	**	2,667,258
*	Fidelity Freedom 2040	Mutual fund, 322,867 shares	**	2,376,305
*	Fidelity Freedom 2045	Mutual fund, 255,084 shares	**	2,216,682
*	Fidelity Freedom 2010	Mutual fund, 162,885 shares	**	2,133,790
	Vanguard Small Growth Index	Mutual fund, 94,834 shares	**	2,037,974
*	Fidelity Balanced	Mutual fund, 96,755 shares	**	1,759,969
*	Spartan US Equity Index	Mutual fund, 37,290 shares	**	1,659,045
	Baron Asset Fund	Mutual fund, 35,290 shares	**	1,612,745
	ABF Large Cap Val PA	Mutual fund, 74,941 shares	**	1,321,954
	Vanguard Selected Value	Mutual fund, 65,841 shares	**	1,223,977
*	Fidelity Freedom 2050	Mutual fund, 123,052 shares	**	1,050,862
	Vanguard Small Value Index	Mutual fund, 46,290 shares	**	696,196
	Vanguard Inflation Protected Securities	Mutual fund, 38,769 shares	**	547,037
*	Fidelity Freedom 2005	Mutual fund, 44,933 shares	**	472,699
*	Fidelity Freedom 2000	Mutual fund, 33,979 shares	**	403,674
*	Fidelity Freedom Income	Mutual fund, 29,355 shares	**	329,946
*	Spartan ST TR Index	Mutual fund, 29,593 shares	**	315,168
	GS Growth Opps	Mutual fund, 4,092 shares	**	84,534
	Total mutual funds			<u>61,113,443</u>
	Total investments, at fair value			<u>68,900,801</u>
*	Notes receivable from participants	Interest ranging from 4.25% to 9.25% maturing through November 2026	**	1,876,377
	Total assets			<u>\$ 70,777,178</u>

\* Indicates party-in-interest to the Plan.

\*\* Indicates a participant or beneficiary directed account. The cost disclosure is not required.