

STERLING BANCORP  
Form 8-K  
August 22, 2008

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549  
FORM 8-K  
CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) August 21, 2008

Commission File Number: 1-5273-1

Sterling Bancorp

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

New York

13-2565216

(State of other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

650 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York

10019-6108

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

(212) 757- 3300

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

N/A

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**ITEM 8.01**

**OTHER EVENTS**

On August 21, 2008, the Company announced the declaration of a cash dividend of \$0.19 per common share payable on September 30, 2008 to shareholders of record on September 15, 2008.

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**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

DATE: August 22, 2008

BY: /s/ JOHN W. TIETJEN

JOHN W. TIETJEN  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer