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STERLING FINANCIAL CORP /WA/ Form 8-K June 20, 2013

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

FORM 8-K CURRENT REPORT

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

Date of report: June 14, 2013 (Date of earliest event reported)

Sterling Financial Corporation

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Washington 001-34696 91-1572822
(State or other jurisdiction (Commission File Number) (I.R.S. Employer of incorporation or organization) Identification Number)

111 North Wall Street, Spokane, Washington 99201 (Address of Principal Executive Offices and Zip Code)

(509) 358-8097

(Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code)

Not Applicable

(Former Name or Former Address, 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 (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers.

(d) Sterling Financial Corporation ("Sterling") hereby announces that its board of directors (the "Sterling Board") has appointed Paula E. Boggs and Maria M. Pope to the Sterling Board, effective June 14, 2013. The Sterling Board has not yet determined committee appointments for Ms. Boggs and Ms. Pope.

A copy of the press release announcing the appointment of Ms. Boggs and Ms. Pope is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report. The information in Exhibit 99.1 shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liability of that section, and shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) The following exhibit is being furnished herewith.

Exhibit No. Exhibit Description

99.1 Press release text of Sterling Financial Corporation dated June 20, 2013

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SIGNATURES

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.

STERLING FINANCIAL CORPORATION (Registrant)

June 20, 2013

Date

By: /s/ Patrick J. Rusnak Patrick J. Rusnak Chief Financial Officer