



STERLING BANCORP
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NEWS

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sterling Bancorp To Announce First Quarter 2005 Financial Results

New York, NY, April 28, 2005 – Sterling Bancorp (NYSE: STL), a financial holding company and the parent company of Sterling National Bank, will issue its financial results for the first quarter ended March 31, 2005, after the market closes on Wednesday, May 4, 2005. In addition, Sterling will hold a conference call on Wednesday, May 4, 2005 at 4:45 PM EDT to discuss the financial results.

To access the conference call live, interested parties may dial 866-814-8448 at least 10 minutes prior to the call.

A replay of the conference call will be available beginning at 7:45 PM EDT on Wednesday, May 4, 2005 until 11:59 PM EDT on Wednesday, May 11, 2005. To access the replay by telephone, interested parties may dial 888-266-2081 and enter the access code 698917.

About Sterling Bancorp

Sterling Bancorp (NYSE: STL) is a financial holding company with assets of \$1.9 billion, offering a broad array of banking and financial services products. Its principal banking subsidiary is Sterling National Bank, founded in 1929. Sterling provides a wide range of products and services, including business and consumer loans, commercial and residential mortgage lending and brokerage, asset-based financing, factoring, trade financing, equipment leasing, corporate and consumer deposit services, trust and estate administration, and investment management services. The Company has operations in New York, Virginia and North Carolina and conducts business throughout the U.S.