



STERLING BANCORP
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NEWS

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**STERLING BANCORP TO REPORT THIRD QUARTER 2008
FINANCIAL RESULTS ON OCTOBER 30**

New York, NY, October 28, 2008 — Sterling Bancorp (NYSE: STL), the parent company of New York City-based Sterling National Bank, will issue its financial results for the third quarter ended September 30, 2008 prior to the opening of the U.S. financial markets on Thursday, October 30, 2008.

The Company also will hold a conference call on Thursday, October 30, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. Eastern Time to discuss the financial results. To access the conference call live, interested parties may dial 877-407-8033 at least 10 minutes prior to the call.

A replay of the conference call will be available beginning at approximately 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Thursday, October 30, 2008 until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, November 14, 2008. To access the replay by telephone, interested parties may dial 877-660-6853; enter the Account Code 286 and Conference ID 301819.

About Sterling Bancorp

Sterling Bancorp (NYSE: STL) is a New York-based banking and financial services company that serves the needs of businesses, professionals and individuals. With assets exceeding \$2.1 billion, Sterling offers a broad array of products and services, combined with a unique high-touch approach to customer service. The Company's principal banking subsidiary, Sterling National Bank, with offices in New York City and Queens, Nassau and Westchester counties, was founded in 1929.

Known for its focus on business customers, Sterling offers such services as working capital lines, asset-based financing, factoring and accounts receivable management, payroll funding and processing, equipment leasing and financing, commercial and residential mortgages, international trade financing, cash management, a wide array of deposit products, trust and estate administration, and investment management services.

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