

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

## FORM 3

Filing Date: **2005-05-02** | Period of Report: **2005-05-02**  
SEC Accession No. **0001183111-05-000031**

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### ISSUER

#### **STERLING BANCSHARES INC**

CIK: **891098** | IRS No.: **742175590** | State of Incorpor.: **TX** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**  
SIC: **6022** State commercial banks

Business Address  
*15000 NORTHWEST FRWY  
STE 308  
HOUSTON TX 77040  
7134668300*

### REPORTING OWNER

#### **Lyles Sonny**

CIK: **1325580**  
Type: **3** | Act: **34** | File No.: **000-20750** | Film No.: **05791947**

Mailing Address  
*2550 N. LOOP WEST  
SUITE 600  
HOUSTON TX 77092*

Business Address  
*713-466-8300*

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE  
COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0104
Expires:	02/28/2011
Estimated average burden hours per response	0.5

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL  
OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of  
the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment  
Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <u>Lyles Sonny</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) 2550 N. LOOP WEST, SUITE 600 (Street) HOUSTON, TX 77092 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/ Year) 05/02/2005	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>STERLING BANCSHARES INC [SBIB]</u>		
		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) <u>Chief Credit Officer</u>		5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)
		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check applicable line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form Filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person		

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Sterling Bancshares, Inc. Common Stock, \$1.00 par value	0	D	

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/ Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			

**Signatures**

James W. Goolsby, Jr./Attorney-in-Fact

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

05/02/2005

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.**