



DIVISION OF  
CORPORATION FINANCE

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

Mail Stop 4720

July 7, 2016

Mr. Luis Massiani  
Senior Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer  
Sterling Bancorp  
400 Rella Boulevard  
Montebello, NY 10901

**Re: Sterling Bancorp  
Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2015  
Filed February 29, 2016  
Form 8-K Dated April 26, 2016  
Filed April 26, 2016  
File No. 001-35385**

Dear Mr. Massiani:

We have completed our review of your filings. We remind you that our comments or changes to disclosure in response to our comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the company or the filings and the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States. We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filings to be certain that the filings include the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable rules require.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. Stephen Kim

H. Stephen Kim  
Assistant Chief Accountant  
Office of Financial Services