

State Auto Financial CORP  
 Form 3  
 November 13, 2006

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**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

(Print or Type Responses)

|   |   |  |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| <p>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *</p> <p>English Steven Eugene</p> <p>(Last) (First) (Middle)</p> <p>6921 FOUR WINDS CT.</p> <p>(Street)</p> <p>BROWNSBURG, IN 46112</p> <p>(City) (State) (Zip)</p> | <p>2. Date of Event Requiring Statement</p> <p>(Month/Day/Year)</p> <p>11/03/2006</p> | <p>3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</p> <p>State Auto Financial CORP [STFC]</p> | <p>4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</p> <p>(Check all applicable)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>(give title below) (specify below)</p> <p>Vice President</p> | <p>5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)</p> | <p>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person</p> |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|

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

| 1. Title of Security<br>(Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned<br>(Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership<br>(Instr. 5) |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Common Shares without par value    | 1,355.801  | D   |  |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

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

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|                            |            |            |               | Shares |          | (I)<br>(Instr. 5) |   |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|---------------|--------|----------|-------------------|---|
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | 05/23/2003 | 05/22/2012 | Common Shares | 1,400  | \$ 16    | D                 | Â |
| Incentive Stock Option     | 05/23/2003 | 05/22/2012 | Common Shares | 934    | \$ 16    | D                 | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | 05/22/2004 | 05/21/2013 | Common Shares | 1,250  | \$ 18.74 | D                 | Â |
| Incentive Stock Option     | 05/22/2004 | 05/21/2013 | Common Shares | 1,250  | \$ 18.74 | D                 | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | 05/27/2005 | 05/26/2014 | Common Shares | 1,250  | \$ 30.86 | D                 | Â |
| Incentive Stock Option     | 05/27/2005 | 05/26/2014 | Common Shares | 1,250  | \$ 30.86 | D                 | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | 06/01/2004 | 05/31/2014 | Common Shares | 3,252  | \$ 30.75 | D                 | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | 05/10/2006 | 05/09/2015 | Common Shares | 1,250  | \$ 26.45 | D                 | Â |
| Incentive Stock Option     | 05/10/2006 | 05/09/2015 | Common Shares | 1,250  | \$ 26.45 | D                 | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | 05/17/2007 | 05/16/2016 | Common Shares | 3,150  | \$ 33.5  | D                 | Â |
| Incentive Stock Option     | 05/17/2007 | 05/16/2016 | Common Shares | 3,150  | \$ 33.5  | D                 | Â |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                       | Relationships |           |                  |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer          | Other |
| English Steven Eugene<br>6921 FOUR WINDS CT.<br>BROWNSBURG, IN 46112 | Â             | Â         | Â Vice President | Â     |

## Signatures

/s/ Steven E. English by John R. Lowther, attorney in fact pursuant to a POA filed with the Commission on 11-07-06

11/13/2006

Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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.

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