

State Auto Financial CORP  
Form 4  
March 20, 2008

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN 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)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**DUEMEY JAMES E**

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**518 E. BROAD STREET**  
  
(Street)

**COLUMBUS, OH 43215**

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**State Auto Financial CORP [STFC]**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**03/19/2008**

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
**Vice President**

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Price   |  |                                   |
| Common Shares without par value | 03/19/2008                           |  | M                              | 4,400   | A \$ 16.47  | 18,483.489 (1)   | D                                 |
| Common Shares without par value | 03/19/2008                           |  | F                              | 3,148   | D \$ 28.29  | 15,335.489 (1)   | D                                 |
| Common Shares without par value | 03/19/2008                           |  | M                              | 5,000   | A \$ 16   | 20,335.489 (1)   | D                                 |

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Common Shares without par value 03/19/2008 F 3,521 D \$ 28.29 16,814.489 (1) D

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

**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 control number.**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable Expiration Date                         | Title   |                            |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) NQ    | \$ 16.47   | 03/19/2008                           |  | M                              | V 4,400   | 05/24/2002 05/23/2011                                    | Common Shares   | 4,400                      |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) NQ    | \$ 16  | 03/19/2008                           |  | M                              | V 5,000   | 05/23/2003 05/22/2012                                    | Common Shares   | 5,000                      |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                              | Relationships |           |                |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|----------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer        | Other |
| DUEMEY JAMES E<br>518 E. BROAD STREET<br>COLUMBUS, OH 43215 |               |           | Vice President |       |

## Signatures

James E. Duemey by James A. Yano, attorney in fact pursuant to POA filed with  
Commission 8-17-07.

03/20/2008

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* 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).
- (1) Includes indirect holdings by spouse of 2,040 shares and 500 shares jointly owned with spouse.
  - (2) Field should be left blank, but due to a software defect, requires input.

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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